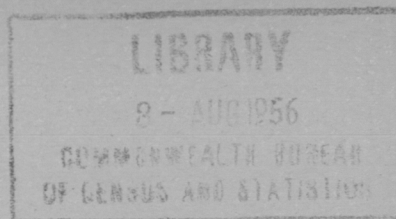


COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS, CANBERRA,
AUSTRALIA.



MONTHLY REVIEW OF BUSINESS STATISTICS

MAY, 1956.

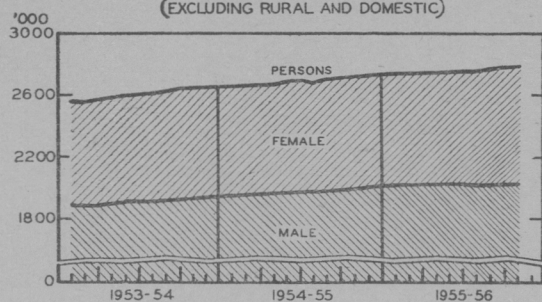
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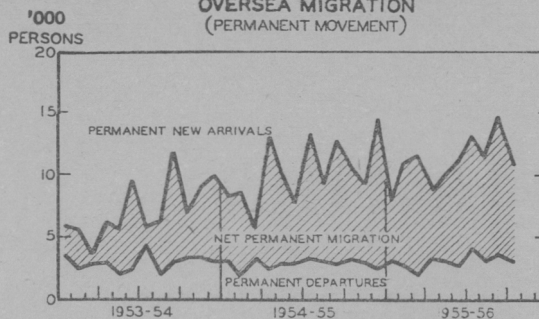
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S. R. CARVER;
ACTING COMMONWEALTH STATISTICIAN.

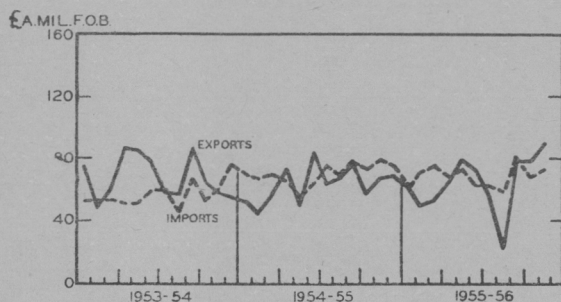
TOTAL EMPLOYMENT
(EXCLUDING RURAL AND DOMESTIC)



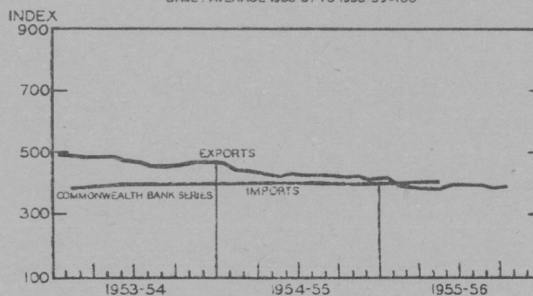
OVERSEA MIGRATION
(PERMANENT MOVEMENT)



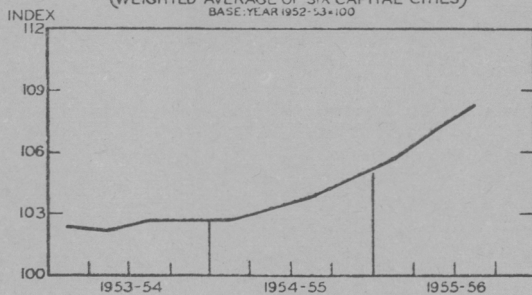
OVERSEA TRADE



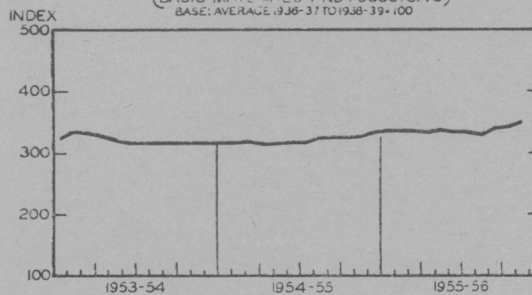
IMPORT AND EXPORT PRICE INDEXES
BASE: AVERAGE 1936-37 TO 1938-39 = 100



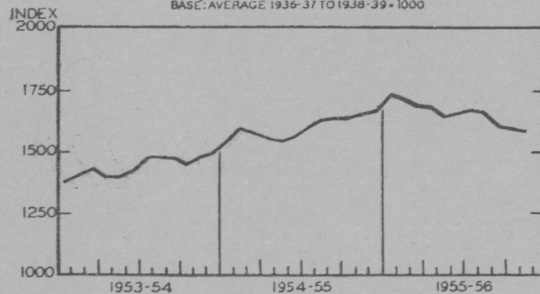
INTERIM RETAIL PRICE INDEX
(WEIGHTED AVERAGE OF SIX CAPITAL CITIES)
BASE: YEAR 1952-53 = 100



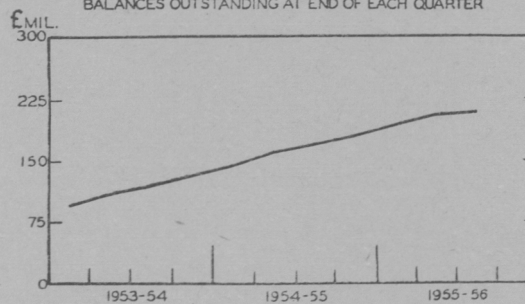
WHOLESALE PRICE INDEX
(BASIC MATERIALS AND FOODSTUFFS)
BASE: AVERAGE 1936-37 TO 1938-39 = 100



ORDINARY SHARE PRICE INDEX
(SYDNEY STOCK EXCHANGE)
BASE: AVERAGE 1936-37 TO 1938-39 = 1000



HIRE PURCHASE AGREEMENTS: FINANCE COMPANIES
BALANCES OUTSTANDING AT END OF EACH QUARTER



CONTENTS.

The following symbols, where shown in columns of figures, mean—

- n.a. Not available.
 .. Nil or less than half the final digit shown, or not applicable.
 p Preliminary—figure or series subject to revision.
 r Figure or series revised.
 — Break in continuity of series (where drawn across a column between two consecutive figures).

A blank space in a column of figures means that the figure concerned is not yet available.

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INDICATORS OF BUSINESS ACTIVITY.

This and the following page summarize the trend of business activity shown by certain of the major indicators contained in various tables herein :—

Period.	Total Civil Employment. —End of Month (Excluding Rural and Household Domestic). (a)			Average Weekly Wage Earnings (b) Index (Base : 1945-46 = 1,000).	Internal Trade.		Oversea Trade (Merchandise only—Values f.o.b. port of Shipment).		Building Permits(e) Six Capital Cities and Suburbs.	New Houses Com- menced.(f)
	Males.	Females.	Total.		Whole- sale.(c)	Retail.(d)	Imports.	Exports.		
Monthly Average—	'000.	'000.	'000.		£m.	£m.	£m.	£m.	£'000.	No.
1932-33	(g)992	(g)341	(g)1,333	n.a.	29.1	n.a.	5.5	8.2	565	n.a.
1936-37	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	37.2	n.a.	8.6	12.3	1,986	n.a.
1937-38	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	40.5	n.a.	10.6	11.7	2,307	n.a.
1938-39	(h)1,293	(h)437	(h)1,730	n.a.	39.8	n.a.	9.4	10.1	2,353	n.a.
1948-49	1,757	656	2,413	1,322	93.4	240.6	34.5	45.1	5,577	(i) 14,732
1949-50	1,810	675	2,485	1,451	110.2	276.4	44.7	51.0	7,129	(i) 16,726
1950-51	1,882	707	2,589	1,742	140.5	342.7	61.8	81.6	10,426	(i) 20,686
1951-52	1,915	709	2,624	2,145	162.1	404.0	87.5	55.4	9,700	20,001
1952-53	1,876	670	2,546	2,350	158.1	425.8	42.5	70.7	10,045	16,115
1953-54	1,914	695	2,609	2,462	179.5	460.2	56.5	67.7	12,356	18,811
1954-55	1,971	727	2,698	2,572	205.5	505.1	70.1	63.2	17,920	18,870
Monthly Total—										
1953-54—										
April	1,936	708	2,644	2,477	182.4	464.6	52.1	65.3	13,622	19,067
May	1,942	707	2,649		183.0		60.1	57.8	12,904	
June	1,948	708	2,656		198.5		76.0	55.1	15,489	
1954-55—										
July	1,947	709	2,656	2,522	187.0	470.8	70.3	52.0	18,403	19,976
August	1,949	711	2,660		198.1		66.7	43.9	17,646	
September ..	1,953	715	2,668		209.9		70.3	54.8	20,078	
October	1,955	719	2,674	2,524	206.0	554.6	64.6	72.7	16,795	18,954
November ..	1,965	727	2,692		215.1		54.7	49.9	20,495	
December ..	1,969	732	2,701		212.5		64.4	84.2	14,174	
January	1,969	724	2,693	2,589	164.3	480.4	76.0	63.6	13,976	17,789
February ..	1,977	733	2,710		197.1		69.8	67.3	17,399	
March	1,986	738	2,724		224.6		77.6	77.0	18,907	
April	1,991	736	2,727	2,652	200.8	514.5	73.2	57.0	17,128	18,762
May	1,996	737	2,733		225.6		78.9	66.8	18,744	
June	2,001	738	2,739		225.4		74.7	69.0	21,308	
1955-56—										
July	1,996	739	2,735	2,689	207.0	517.2	p 61.5	p 60.9	18,238	19,491
August	2,000	741	2,741		230.5		71.2	48.7	22,578	
September ..	2,003	744	2,747		229.8		74.9	51.4	19,865	
October	2,002	748	2,750	2,731	224.7	608.2	68.1	65.6	18,197	17,970
November ..	2,012	756	2,768		243.5		73.4	r78.5	19,708	
December ..	2,013	758	2,771		r222.1		63.3	72.9	16,230	
January	(i)1,991	752	(j)2,743	2,749	r178.1	206.3	(j) 63.4	(j)r55.4	14,674	r17,139
February ..	2,019	759	2,778				(j) 59.1	(j) 20.4	18,732	
March	2,021	762	2,783				(j) 80.5	(j) 77.7	20,332	
April	2,026	760	2,786				67.9	78.3		
May								90.2		

(a) Excludes Defence Forces at home or abroad, National Service Trainees in camp and, in 1932-33, Government "relief" workers. Figures from 1947-48 subject to revision. (b) Seasonally adjusted. Average earnings per employed male unit. Male units represent total male employment plus a proportion of female employment based on the approximate ratio of female to male earnings. (c) Net sales recorded under Sales Tax Acts. (d) Quarterly average sales for years and quarterly total sales. Excludes Australian Capital Territory and Northern Territory. Excludes Motor Vehicles, Parts, Petrol, &c. (e) All building operations for which permits granted by local government authorities. Excludes Government buildings (see note (a) page 31). (f) Includes owner-built houses. Quarterly averages for years, and quarterly totals. From September Quarter 1954, includes Northern Territory. (g) June, 1933; obtained from Census. (h) July, 1939; obtained from National Register. (i) Partly estimated. (j) Affected by Industrial Disputes.

For meaning of symbols n.a., p. r —, see page 1.

INDICATORS OF BUSINESS ACTIVITY—continued.

Period.	Production of Black Coal.	Total Electricity Generated.	Production of Ingot Steel.	New Motor Vehicles Registered (a) (Excluding Defence Service Vehicles).		Government Railways : Gross Revenue.	P.M.G.'s Department Cash Receipts.	Private Trading Banks. (b)		Bank Debits to Customers' Accounts (Weekly Averages).
				Motor Cars.	Commercial Vehicles.			Deposits.	Advances.	
Monthly Average—	'000 tons.	Million kWh	'000 tons.	'000.	'000.	£'000.	£'000.	£m.	£m.	£m.
1932-33 ..	732	225	32.7	1.0	0.3	3,017	1,053	269.9	231.0	n.a.
1936-37 ..	977	331	90.0	4.0	2.0	3,517	1,318	297.6	262.5	n.a.
1937-38 ..	990	363	97.2	4.6	2.3	3,705	1,396	314.8	274.4	n.a.
1938-39 ..	1,051	391	97.5	4.5	2.1	3,662	1,447	317.7	288.1	n.a.
1948-49 ..	1,237	754	98.2	5.5	3.1	7,165	2,776	776.4	368.6	212.8
1949-50 ..	1,243	792	101.5	9.6	4.8	7,683	3,196	910.1	403.9	271.1
1950-51 ..	1,368	875	120.3	10.6	6.5	8,804	3,732	1,144.2	479.3	372.9
1951-52 ..	1,598	941	126.8	10.4	6.1	11,626	4,948	1,201.7	621.4	402.4
1952-53 ..	1,545	1,024	150.1	7.7	4.4	12,903	5,371	1,162.4	638.1	389.3
1953-54 ..	1,619	1,142	176.4	10.4	4.8	14,155	5,650	1,275.5	658.5	446.5
1954-55 ..	p1,613	p1,275	p184.1	13.9	5.6	14,521	6,069	1,310.7	776.8	491.6
Monthly Total—						(c)				
1953-54—										
April ..	1,545	1,133	174.5	11.3	4.9	13,772	5,587	1,354.9	684.7	449.8
May ..	1,721	1,255	184.5	11.7	5.2	14,686	5,779	1,323.3	695.4	490.6
June ..	1,721	1,290	176.0	12.4	5.3	15,922	6,106	1,305.0	701.7	500.0
1954-55—	p	p	p							
July ..	1,762	1,359	202.4	13.4	5.7	14,456	5,657	1,271.7	724.9	471.3
August ..	1,747	1,321	193.2	15.9	6.0	15,123	5,558	1,256.7	738.8	443.4
September ..	1,832	1,255	197.3	13.8	6.3	15,375	5,903	1,260.3	757.1	472.7
October ..	1,728	1,243	200.9	13.6	5.8	15,304	5,929	1,285.9	780.1	497.6
November ..	1,782	1,212	189.5	13.6	6.2	15,856	6,397	1,299.3	786.2	483.4
December ..	1,479	1,189	189.2	13.4	5.7	15,786	7,038	1,317.7	785.7	511.0
January ..	906	1,162	173.6	8.1	3.8	13,082	5,160	1,334.8	769.8	463.7
February ..	1,566	1,163	156.3	12.7	4.8	12,947	5,927	1,356.2	772.9	504.9
March ..	1,641	1,315	182.2	15.8	5.9	13,725	6,619	1,364.3	775.9	501.9
April ..	1,485	1,243	158.1	13.5	4.9	13,704	5,769	1,345.3	795.8	485.1
May ..	1,712	1,396	190.0	16.1	6.2	14,762	6,231	1,328.7	811.4	532.1
June ..	1,712	1,441	178.6	16.5	6.2	14,134	6,637	1,307.2	817.7	521.9
1955-56—										
July ..	1,777	1,508	195.8	15.2	6.0	14,215	5,921	1,280.8	829.9	520.7
August ..	1,906	1,478	197.7	16.8	6.2	15,418	6,509	1,264.2	820.4	479.3
September ..	1,797	1,383	189.1	16.0	6.6	15,514	6,493	1,257.7	823.1	493.3
October ..	1,692	1,376	190.2	15.0	6.6	15,259	6,766	1,277.1	831.4	519.2
November ..	1,730	1,365	192.2	14.9	6.0	15,535	6,437	1,295.8	823.3	551.4
December ..	1,353	1,309	192.7	14.4	5.9	14,275	7,142	1,321.5	814.5	563.1
January ..	856	1,272	197.5	9.9	4.6	13,572	6,097	1,331.8	784.2	489.8
February ..	1,438	1,308	192.7	12.4	5.3		6,285	1,331.9	773.7	501.5
March ..	1,484	1,398	202.3	14.4	6.1		6,803	1,334.4	776.2	526.9
April ..			187.6	11.5	5.5		6,116	1,321.5	786.8	524.0
May ..				12.4	6.1		7,352	1,277.8	798.4	561.4

(a) Excludes Northern Territory prior to July, 1953; also extra-metropolitan area of Western Australia prior to 1938-39.
 (b) Until December, 1946, averages of deposits and advances on Mondays in period; thereafter on Wednesdays. (c) Calculated from monthly returns of revenue and expenditure and not strictly comparable with annual figures above as monthly details exclude certain items of revenue and expenditure which are only allocated on an annual basis.

For meaning of symbols, n.a., p., —, see page 1.

POPULATION AND VITAL STATISTICS : AUSTRALIA.

Period.	Marriages.	Births.	Deaths.	Natural Increase.(a)	Net Migration.(b)	Total Increase.(c)	Population at end of Period.
Quarterly Average—							
1936-37	14,627	29,634	16,129	13,505	496	14,291	6,835,536
1937-38	15,529	29,924	16,170	13,754	1,676	15,751	6,898,541
1938-39	15,279	30,636	17,023	13,613	3,339	17,303	6,967,754
1948-49	18,498	44,149	19,041	25,108	25,287	49,826	7,908,066
1949-50	18,558	47,048	19,001	28,047	40,387	67,657	8,178,696
1950-51	19,211	48,114	19,896	28,218	33,244	60,770	8,421,775
1951-52	18,896	49,228	20,661	28,567	25,720	53,671	8,636,458
1952-53	17,870	50,739	20,023	30,716	14,516	44,726	8,815,362
1953-54	17,827	50,400	20,390	30,010	13,263	42,792	d8,986,530
1954-55	17,848	51,213	20,541	30,672	22,868	53,540	9,200,691
Quarterly Total—							
1952-53—							
March	17,393	51,469	17,142	34,327	8,632	42,483	8,782,052
June	18,406	49,489	19,532	29,957	3,730	33,310	8,815,362
1953-54—							
September	15,210	50,517	23,289	27,228	10,335	37,149	8,852,511
December	19,631	50,760	20,225	30,535	20,200	50,175	8,902,686
March	17,868	49,709	17,367	32,342	12,175	44,020	8,946,706
June	18,600	50,613	20,677	29,936	10,340	39,824	d8,986,530
1954-55—							
September	15,097	50,772	24,670	26,102	16,809	42,911	9,029,441
December	19,664	51,162	19,091	32,071	28,883	60,954	9,090,395
March	17,705	51,318	17,680	33,638	25,101	58,739	9,149,134
June	18,924	51,600	20,723	30,877	20,680	51,557	9,200,691
1955-56—							
September	15,449	53,714	24,209	29,505	25,853	55,358	9,256,049
December	20,094	51,045	19,424	31,621	25,621	57,242	9,313,291
March	18,680	52,614	18,073	34,541	29,421	63,962	9,377,253

(a) Excess of births over deaths. (b) Excess of arrivals over departures. (c) Includes natural increase and net migration together with adjustments for deaths of defence personnel and adjustments of population between July, 1933 and June, 1954, on the basis of Census results. (d) Census 30th June, 1954.

POPULATION: STATES.

Date.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Northern Territory.	Australian Capital Territory.	Australia.
30th June—									
1939 ..	2,748,393	1,878,480	1,018,007	596,563	470,044	237,419	6,281	12,567	6,967,754
1948 ..	3,015,763	2,092,320	1,131,200	661,153	515,074	261,206	12,254	19,791	7,708,761
1949 ..	3,092,621	2,142,986	1,159,124	679,305	532,191	267,062	13,391	21,386	7,908,066
1950 ..	3,193,372	2,208,078	1,196,185	709,547	557,096	275,902	14,692	23,824	8,178,696
1951 ..	3,278,032	2,276,575	1,227,701	732,430	580,343	286,193	15,609	24,892	8,421,775
1952 ..	3,339,455	2,344,491	1,259,478	755,053	599,858	296,299	15,464	26,360	8,636,458
1953 ..	3,383,792	2,395,254	1,291,410	775,781	620,547	304,080	15,853	28,645	8,815,362
1954 (a) ..	3,423,529	2,452,341	1,318,259	797,094	639,771	308,752	16,469	30,315	8,986,530
1955 ..	3,490,331	2,523,018	1,344,572	819,549	658,538	314,679	17,580	32,424	9,200,691
31st March—									
1956 ..	3,544,135	2,588,819	1,355,202	843,133	673,676	320,748	17,351	34,189	9,377,253

(a) Census—30th June, 1954.

OVERSEA MIGRATION.

Permanent migration refers to persons, other than Australian troops, intending residence for one year or longer—in Australia in the case of arrivals, and abroad in the case of departures. Temporary migration refers to persons intending residence for shorter periods, together with Australian troops from July, 1947, onwards, irrespective of length of intended residence.

Period.				Temporary.				Permanent.		
				Australian Residents.		Visitors from Overseas.		Arrivals.	Australian Residents Departing.	Excess of Arrivals.
				Arriving.	Departing.	Arriving.	Departing.			
Monthly Average—										
1936-37	..	..	1,910	1,937	2,294	2,297	1,148	953	195
1937-38	..	..	2,127	2,060	2,617	2,678	1,478	925	553
1938-39	..	..	2,145	1,966	2,649	2,742	2,081	1,055	1,026
1948-49	..	..	2,008	1,898	2,829	2,566	9,568	1,511	8,057
1949-50	..	..	2,336	2,500	3,470	3,644	15,407	1,608	13,799
1950-51	..	..	2,812	2,617	3,594	3,753	12,774	1,729	11,045
1951-52	..	..	3,251	3,233	3,895	4,085	10,872	2,126	8,746
1952-53	..	..	3,351	3,427	3,838	4,198	7,991	2,717	5,274
1953-54	..	..	3,648	3,556	3,953	3,906	7,206	2,924	4,282
1954-55	..	..	4,107	4,013	4,277	4,220	10,348	2,877	7,471
Monthly Total—										
1953-54—										
April	..	..	3,643	5,757	4,173	4,580	6,894	3,357	3,537
May	..	..	2,593	4,768	3,269	4,303	9,056	3,256	5,800
June	..	..	2,773	3,319	3,918	3,562	10,036	3,113	6,923
1954-55—										
July	..	..	2,608	3,025	3,230	3,572	8,442	3,120	5,322
August	..	..	2,910	2,134	2,858	2,694	8,611	1,842	6,769
September	..	..	4,675	2,654	3,934	3,954	5,759	3,223	2,536
October	..	..	4,564	2,518	4,507	3,985	13,197	2,375	10,822
November	..	..	5,643	2,805	4,286	4,515	10,115	2,869	7,246
December	..	..	4,890	5,014	5,383	4,656	7,919	2,884	5,035
January	..	..	5,242	3,883	5,113	5,055	13,256	3,338	9,918
February	..	..	4,299	5,067	4,751	4,502	9,380	3,101	6,279
March	..	..	3,932	5,636	4,704	4,801	12,711	2,904	9,807
April	..	..	3,622	6,249	4,761	4,653	10,718	3,308	7,410
May	..	..	3,675	5,760	4,353	4,699	9,408	3,030	6,378
June	..	..	3,228	3,405	3,441	3,557	14,664	2,529	12,135
1955-56—										
July	..	..	3,050	3,143	3,089	3,557	7,885	3,130	4,755
August	..	..	3,842	2,859	4,025	3,521	10,926	2,681	8,245
September	..	..	4,781	2,714	4,021	3,847	11,675	1,989	9,686
October	..	..	6,313	4,558	5,078	4,501	8,868	3,451	5,417
November	..	..	5,735	3,530	4,611	4,876	10,083	3,224	6,859
December	..	..	5,158	5,376	5,618	4,755	11,221	2,793	8,428
January	..	..	6,201	4,828	5,703	5,468	13,328	4,227	9,101
February	..	..	4,549	4,936	5,294	4,826	11,436	3,004	8,432
March	..	..	4,942	6,316	5,430	5,109	14,843	3,591	11,252
April	..	..	4,431	5,500	4,252	4,863	10,913	2,983	7,930

WAGE AND SALARY EARNERS IN EMPLOYMENT : AUSTRALIA.(a)

('000.)

Month.	Total Civil Employment. (Excluding Rural and Household Domestic.)			Total Employment in Main Industrial Groups.						
	Governmental Authorities.(b)	Private Employers.	Total.	Mining and Quarrying.	Factories.(c)	Building and Construction.	Transport and Communication.	Retail Trade.	Other Commerce and Finance.	Professional and Personal Services.(d)
MALES.										
1939—July ..	349.8	943.3	1,293.1	52.2	391.5	149.7	185.9	259.7		133.6
1953—June ..	567.8	1,319.0	1,886.8	58.0	666.3	193.2	295.1	125.0	191.0	174.1
1954—June ..	581.4	1,367.0	1,948.4	58.7	696.1	205.7	300.1	128.4	198.3	176.6
1955—June ..	599.1	1,401.4	2,000.5	58.3	714.5	211.8	308.7	129.2	207.1	182.1
1955—January ..	585.8	1,382.3	1,968.1	57.4	703.9	201.8	303.3	130.1	206.6	178.6
February ..	589.2	1,388.2	1,977.4	57.5	707.1	203.6	304.4	129.6	207.2	180.7
March ..	592.4	1,393.9	1,986.3	57.6	709.7	206.2	306.2	129.6	207.7	182.0
April ..	595.4	1,395.5	1,990.9	57.8	711.4	208.5	306.5	129.2	207.6	182.2
1956—January(e) ..	595.5	1,395.4	1,990.9	57.2	718.9	207.1	288.4	131.4	212.6	184.8
February ..	597.7	1,421.3	2,019.0	56.6	721.8	210.7	308.6	130.2	213.6	186.8
March ..	599.3	1,421.2	2,020.5	56.5	722.4	209.6	308.2	130.5	214.3	188.4
April ..	601.1	1,424.3	2,025.4	56.8	723.9	211.5	310.7	130.1	213.8	187.8
FEMALES.										
1939—July ..	55.2	381.9	437.1	0.3	148.2	1.2	12.6	114.9		129.0
1953—June ..	112.0	561.7	673.7	0.9	202.9	4.3	36.2	109.9	71.5	213.5
1954—June ..	114.5	593.0	707.5	1.0	219.8	4.7	36.5	115.3	77.0	218.7
1955—June ..	122.8	615.7	738.5	1.1	225.3	4.9	38.4	121.6	83.1	228.1
1955—January ..	116.2	608.0	724.2	1.0	223.4	4.8	37.6	120.3	80.5	221.5
February ..	119.3	613.5	732.8	1.0	226.8	4.8	38.0	119.5	82.3	224.8
March ..	121.3	616.2	737.5	1.1	228.0	4.8	38.1	119.6	83.0	227.3
April ..	121.4	614.6	736.0	1.1	225.3	4.8	38.1	120.3	83.0	227.7
1956—January ..	123.9	628.3	752.2	1.1	226.7	4.9	39.5	125.9	86.2	231.8
February ..	127.3	632.1	759.4	1.1	231.7	5.0	39.9	123.3	88.1	234.0
March ..	128.7	633.5	762.2	1.1	230.8	5.0	40.0	123.2	89.0	236.
April ..	129.3	631.0	760.3	1.2	229.4	5.0	40.1	122.7	88.6	236.6
PERSONS.										
1939—July ..	405.0	1,325.2	1,730.2	52.5	539.7	150.9	198.5	374.6		262.9
1953—June ..	679.8	1,880.7	2,560.5	58.9	869.2	197.5	331.3	234.9	262.5	387.6
1954—June ..	695.9	1,960.0	2,655.9	59.7	915.9	210.4	336.6	243.7	275.3	395.3
1955—June ..	721.9	2,017.1	2,739.0	59.4	939.8	216.7	347.1	250.8	290.2	410.2
1955—January ..	702.0	1,990.3	2,692.3	58.4	927.3	206.6	340.9	250.4	287.1	400.1
February ..	708.5	2,001.7	2,710.2	58.5	933.9	208.4	342.4	249.1	289.5	405.5
March ..	713.7	2,010.1	2,723.8	58.7	937.7	211.0	344.3	249.2	290.7	409.3
April ..	716.8	2,010.1	2,726.9	58.9	936.7	213.3	344.6	249.5	290.6	409.9
1956—January(e) ..	719.4	2,023.7	2,743.1	58.3	945.6	212.0	327.9	257.3	298.8	416.6
February ..	725.0	2,053.4	2,778.4	57.7	953.5	215.7	348.5	253.5	301.7	420.8
March ..	728.0	2,054.7	2,782.7	57.6	953.2	214.6	348.2	253.7	303.3	425.1
April ..	730.4	2,055.3	2,785.7	58.0	953.3	216.5	350.8	252.8	302.4	424.7

(a) Excludes Defence Forces, at home or abroad, and National Service Trainees in camp. Estimated total employment is based on Pay-roll Tax returns and records of Government employment. Figures from June 1953, subject to revision. (b) Includes all employees of Australian Government authorities (Commonwealth, State and Local) on services such as railways, tramways, banks, post office, air transport, education, broadcasting, police, public works, factories and munitions establishments, migrant hostels, &c., as well as administrative employees within Australia. (c) Pay-roll series subject to revision. (d) Includes Education, Health, Hotels and Restaurants, other Professional and Personal Services (except female private domestic). (e) Affected by Industrial Disputes.

WAGE AND SALARY EARNERS IN EMPLOYMENT : STATES.(a)

('000)

Month.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Northern Territory.	Australian Capital Territory.	Australia.
MALES.									
1939—July ..	529.9	357.5	172.8	106.7	82.9	37.4	2.1	3.8	1,293.1
1953—June ..	734.3	521.6	255.2	170.6	130.2	61.8	4.6	8.5	1,886.8
1954—June ..	758.1	539.7	263.7	176.0	135.0	62.8	4.9	8.2	1,948.4
1955—June ..	779.2	556.7	272.0	178.7	136.4	64.0	4.8	8.7	2,000.5
1954—December	770.0	546.9	263.3	176.5	135.5	63.7	4.8	8.3	1,969.0
1955—January ..	767.8	549.2	260.9	177.5	135.3	64.1	4.9	8.4	1,968.1
February ..	772.7	550.3	264.4	177.5	135.2	64.0	4.8	8.5	1,977.4
March ..	775.9	552.8	266.2	177.9	136.1	64.3	4.7	8.4	1,986.3
April ..	776.0	554.1	268.2	178.6	136.3	64.4	4.7	8.6	1,990.9
December	786.1	561.1	269.0	181.9	137.5	63.7	4.9	8.9	2,013.1
1956—January(b) ..	777.3	558.0	263.6	180.4	135.1	62.7	4.9	8.9	1,990.9
February ..	786.7	563.2	270.5	183.0	137.6	64.3	4.8	8.9	2,019.0
March ..	785.8	564.6	270.8	183.8	137.6	64.3	4.8	8.8	2,020.5
April ..	787.8	565.4	272.8	184.4	136.9	64.7	4.9	8.5	2,025.4
FEMALES.									
1939—July ..	168.0	142.9	53.2	34.0	26.2	11.6	0.2	1.0	437.1
1953—June ..	266.2	205.9	83.7	53.4	41.0	20.1	0.9	2.5	673.7
1954—June ..	279.5	217.7	86.1	56.9	42.8	21.0	0.9	2.6	707.5
1955—June ..	292.5	227.0	89.3	60.2	43.9	21.7	1.0	2.9	738.5
1954—December	293.0	223.0	88.3	58.8	44.2	21.0	0.9	2.7	731.9
1955—January ..	287.8	222.3	87.3	59.2	42.8	21.2	0.9	2.7	724.2
February ..	291.5	224.4	88.6	59.8	43.8	21.1	0.9	2.7	732.8
March ..	292.4	227.0	88.4	60.5	44.0	21.5	0.9	2.8	737.5
April ..	292.1	225.5	88.4	60.5	43.9	21.8	0.9	2.9	736.0
December	303.4	229.9	91.0	63.2	44.5	22.2	1.1	2.9	758.2
1956—January ..	298.5	229.6	90.2	64.0	43.7	22.2	1.1	2.9	752.2
February ..	300.9	233.0	90.9	63.7	44.6	22.2	1.0	3.1	759.4
March ..	301.1	234.7	91.3	63.7	44.7	22.7	1.0	3.0	762.2
April ..	300.4	233.8	90.6	63.6	44.8	23.0	1.1	3.0	760.3
PERSONS.									
1939—July ..	697.9	500.4	226.0	140.7	109.1	49.0	2.3	4.8	1,730.2
1953—June ..	1,000.5	727.5	338.9	224.0	171.2	81.9	5.5	11.0	2,560.5
1954—June ..	1,037.6	757.4	349.8	232.9	177.8	83.8	5.8	10.8	2,655.9
1955—June ..	1,071.7	783.7	361.3	238.9	180.3	85.7	5.8	11.6	2,739.0
1954—December	1,063.0	769.9	351.6	235.3	179.7	84.7	5.7	11.0	2,700.9
1955—January ..	1,055.6	771.5	348.2	236.7	178.1	85.3	5.8	11.1	2,692.3
February ..	1,064.2	774.7	353.0	237.3	179.0	85.1	5.7	11.2	2,710.2
March ..	1,068.3	779.8	354.6	238.4	180.1	85.8	5.6	11.2	2,723.8
April ..	1,068.1	779.6	356.6	239.1	180.2	86.2	5.6	11.5	2,726.9
December	1,089.5	791.0	360.0	245.1	182.0	85.9	6.0	11.8	2,771.3
1956—January(b) ..	1,075.8	787.6	353.8	244.4	178.8	84.9	6.0	11.8	2,743.1
February ..	1,087.6	796.2	361.4	246.7	182.2	86.5	5.8	12.0	2,778.4
March ..	1,086.9	799.3	362.1	247.5	182.3	87.0	5.8	11.8	2,782.7
April ..	1,088.2	799.2	363.4	248.0	181.7	87.7	6.0	11.5	2,785.7

(a) Excludes Rural Household Domestic and Defence Forces and National Service Trainees in camp. See also notes on page 6.

(b) Affected by Industrial Disputes.

WAGE AND SALARY EARNERS EMPLOYED IN FACTORIES.(a)

Period.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.				
							Males.	Females.	Persons.	Index—Av. 3 years ended June, 1939 = 1,000.	
										Un-adjusted.	Divided by Index of Total Population.
	'000.	'000.	'000.	'000.	'000.	'000.	'000.	'000.	'000.		
Monthly Average—											
1936-37 ..	197.8	183.0	45.9	39.3	21.4	11.8	359.6	139.6	499.2	950	959
1937-38 ..	215.6	193.6	49.6	42.6	22.0	12.5	387.7	148.2	535.9	1,019	1,019
1938-39 ..	219.5	193.9	51.5	42.0	22.1	13.2	391.8	150.4	542.2	1,031	1,022
1948-49 ..	358.8	274.9	76.8	73.4	35.2	21.2	628.0	212.3	840.3	1,598	1,408
1949-50 ..	358.8	281.5	79.6	75.7	36.6	21.9	636.9	217.2	854.1	1,624	1,386
1950-51 ..	379.0	290.4	83.2	80.8	38.6	22.2	664.8	229.4	894.2	1,701	1,408
1951-52 ..	377.9	292.2	83.1	81.3	38.8	22.0	672.3	223.0	895.3	1,703	1,369
1952-53 ..	351.4	279.1	82.1	77.2	38.7	21.5	652.7	197.3	850.0	1,617	1,268
1953-54 ..	369.6	296.1	85.0	82.2	40.3	22.4	681.1	214.5	895.6	1,703	1,312
1954-55 ..	384.0	308.5	87.1	85.1	41.3	23.0	704.9	224.1	929.0	1,767	1,334
Monthly Total—											
1953-54—											
April ..	375.0	303.7	84.4	84.7	40.5	23.4	690.2	221.5	911.7	1,734	1,327
May ..	376.0	302.1	86.3	84.4	40.6	23.4	692.4	220.4	912.8	1,736	1,326
June ..	376.7	302.7	88.1	84.3	40.8	23.3	696.1	219.8	915.9	1,742	1,329
1954-55—											
July ..	377.1	303.2	89.0	83.9	40.6	22.8	696.1	220.5	916.6	1,743	1,330
August ..	378.5	303.9	89.0	84.2	40.6	22.3	697.8	220.7	918.5	1,747	1,333
September ..	380.4	304.9	88.8	84.1	40.5	22.2	698.9	222.0	920.9	1,752	1,333
October ..	382.1	306.6	88.0	84.2	40.9	22.2	700.6	223.4	924.0	1,757	1,334
November ..	384.6	308.1	87.6	84.4	41.1	22.3	703.5	224.6	928.1	1,765	1,337
December ..	383.8	308.3	85.7	84.7	41.2	23.1	702.4	224.4	926.8	1,763	1,333
January ..	383.8	309.8	83.0	85.8	41.4	23.5	703.9	223.4	927.3	1,764	1,330
February ..	386.8	311.2	85.2	85.8	41.7	23.2	707.1	226.8	933.9	1,776	1,336
March ..	387.7	312.5	85.7	86.4	41.9	23.5	709.7	228.0	937.7	1,784	1,339
April ..	386.9	311.2	86.4	86.5	41.9	23.8	711.4	225.3	936.7	1,782	1,336
May ..	388.0	310.7	88.0	85.8	42.0	23.8	713.5	224.8	938.3	1,785	1,335
June ..	388.2	311.6	88.9	85.7	41.8	23.6	714.5	225.3	939.8	1,787	1,335
1955-56—											
July(b) ..	386.3	310.2	89.8	85.7	41.5	23.1	712.2	224.4	936.6	1,781	1,327
August ..	389.7	312.1	89.7	85.5	41.7	23.1	716.2	225.6	941.8	1,791	1,333
September ..	390.2	312.9	90.0	86.0	42.0	23.2	717.4	226.9	944.3	1,796	1,333
October ..	391.7	314.5	90.0	86.0	41.9	23.3	718.7	228.7	947.4	1,802	1,335
November ..	393.3	315.6	90.2	86.4	42.2	23.5	722.4	228.8	951.2	1,809	1,337
December ..	392.3	314.8	85.0	87.3	42.3	24.4	718.5	227.6	946.1	1,800	1,327
January(b) ..	391.1	315.5	83.4	88.7	42.1	24.8	718.9	226.7	945.6	1,799	1,325
February ..	394.2	318.9	85.4	88.3	42.0	24.7	721.8	231.7	953.5	1,814	1,333
March ..	392.5	319.6	86.0	88.6	41.7	24.8	722.4	230.8	953.2	1,813	1,329
April ..	393.1	318.5	87.0	87.8	41.5	25.4	723.9	229.4	953.3	1,813	1,326

(a) Excludes National Service Trainees in camp. Figures from 1948-49 subject to revision.

(b) Affected by Industrial Disputes.

WAGE AND SALARY EARNERS EMPLOYED IN RETAIL TRADE.(a)

('000.)

Period.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.(b)		
							Males.	Females.	Persons.
Monthly Average—									
1948-49.. ..	93.9	65.7	29.9	22.6	17.1	6.9	125.5	111.2	236.7
1949-50.. ..	93.4	66.8	30.2	23.1	17.6	7.0	126.7	112.0	238.7
1950-51.. ..	97.2	68.8	31.1	23.9	18.2	7.3	129.3	117.8	247.1
1951-52.. ..	95.9	68.6	31.3	23.6	18.4	7.3	128.0	117.7	245.7
1952-53.. ..	90.1	66.1	30.0	22.4	18.1	7.2	124.2	110.4	234.6
1953-54.. ..	93.0	67.5	30.6	23.1	19.0	7.5	127.2	114.0	241.2
1954-55.. ..	96.3	69.9	31.2	24.2	19.6	7.7	129.7	119.8	249.5
Monthly Total—									
1953-54—									
April	92.8	68.1	30.2	23.4	19.1	7.5	127.6	114.1	241.7
May	93.6	68.2	30.4	23.4	19.3	7.5	128.4	114.7	243.1
June	93.6	68.5	30.8	23.4	19.3	7.4	128.4	115.3	243.7
1954-55—									
July	93.2	68.3	30.7	23.3	19.4	7.5	128.0	114.9	242.9
August	93.4	68.1	30.8	23.3	19.2	7.4	128.0	114.9	242.9
September ..	93.9	68.3	31.0	23.6	19.2	7.6	128.2	115.9	244.1
October	94.8	68.7	31.1	23.7	19.4	7.5	128.2	117.7	245.9
November	100.0	71.0	31.8	24.4	19.8	7.8	131.7	123.8	255.5
December	104.4	72.7	32.5	24.5	20.3	8.1	134.9	128.3	263.2
January	96.4	70.2	31.2	24.5	19.6	7.9	130.1	120.3	250.4
February	95.8	70.0	30.8	24.5	19.4	7.8	129.6	119.5	249.1
March	96.1	69.8	30.8	24.5	19.6	7.8	129.6	119.6	249.2
April	95.9	70.0	31.0	24.5	19.7	7.8	129.2	120.3	249.5
May	96.5	70.3	31.3	24.6	19.7	7.8	129.4	121.6	251.0
June	95.7	71.0	31.3	24.6	19.8	7.8	129.2	121.6	250.8
1955-56—									
July	96.1	70.0	31.5	24.7	19.7	7.9	128.8	121.7	250.5
August	95.9	70.2	31.3	24.6	19.6	7.8	128.8	121.3	250.1
September ..	96.1	70.6	31.3	24.9	19.6	7.8	128.9	122.1	251.0
October	96.5	71.2	31.6	25.1	19.7	7.9	129.5	123.3	252.8
November	100.6	73.0	32.5	25.7	20.0	8.1	131.9	128.8	260.7
December	106.0	73.5	32.5	26.3	20.5	8.3	135.6	132.3	267.9
January	98.0	72.3	32.1	25.9	20.2	8.0	131.4	125.9	257.3
February	96.6	71.2	31.4	25.7	19.9	8.0	130.2	123.3	253.5
March	97.2	71.2	31.5	25.3	19.8	8.0	130.5	123.2	253.7
April	96.3	71.2	31.6	25.3	19.8	8.0	130.1	122.7	252.8

(a) Estimates based on Pay-roll Tax returns. Excludes National Service Trainees in camp. Figures subject to revision.
 (b) Includes Northern Territory and Australian Capital Territory.

AVERAGE WEEKLY TOTAL WAGES PAID AND AVERAGE EARNINGS.

The following figures are derived from employment and wages recorded on Pay-roll Tax returns (which cover approximately 80 per cent. of total employment) and from estimates of the unrecorded balance. Pay of members of the armed forces is not included. The figures are not seasonally adjusted. A seasonally adjusted quarterly index of average weekly wage earnings is published on page 2.

Period.		New South Wales.(a)	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.(b)	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.
AVERAGE WEEKLY TOTAL WAGES PAID (£'000).								
1948-49	.. ..	8,133	5,540	2,503	1,644	1,120	580	19,520
1949-50	.. ..	9,018	6,370	2,838	1,894	1,315	672	22,107
1950-51	.. ..	11,385	7,916	3,501	2,389	1,639	817	27,647
1951-52	.. ..	14,364	9,816	4,319	3,018	2,108	1,059	34,684
1952-53	.. ..	15,090	10,490	4,750	3,311	2,344	1,178	37,163
1953-54	.. ..	16,043	11,305	5,065	3,561	2,586	1,280	39,840
1954-55	.. ..	17,357	12,221	5,398	3,839	2,731	1,365	42,911
1953-54—								
March	Qtr. ..	15,303	10,796	4,818	3,447	2,467	1,250	38,081
June	.. ..	16,463	11,619	5,245	3,673	2,644	1,356	41,000
1954-55—								
September	.. ..	16,765	11,848	5,344	3,750	2,729	1,277	41,713
December	.. ..	17,918	12,440	5,612	3,862	2,773	1,345	43,950
March	.. ..	16,511	11,678	5,017	3,712	2,610	1,346	40,874
June	.. ..	18,235	12,916	5,619	4,033	2,813	1,492	45,108
1955-56—								
September	.. ..	18,454	12,890	5,765	4,097	2,844	1,414	45,464
December	.. ..	19,683	13,664	6,034	4,267	2,980	1,462	48,090
March	.. ..	18,229	12,832	5,435	4,057	2,849	1,442	44,844

AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS PER EMPLOYED MALE UNIT (£).(c)								
1948-49	.. ..	8.73	8.84	7.63	8.03	7.75	7.56	8.44
1949-50	.. ..	9.50	9.78	8.34	8.83	8.65	8.49	9.26
1950-51	.. ..	11.46	11.70	9.82	10.58	10.23	9.99	11.09
1951-52	.. ..	14.24	14.20	11.93	13.13	12.80	12.59	13.65
1952-53	.. ..	15.50	15.46	13.32	14.58	14.13	13.97	14.95
1953-54	.. ..	16.15	16.27	14.05	15.30	15.04	14.92	15.69
1954-55	.. ..	16.96	17.06	14.51	16.09	15.55	15.60	16.42
1953-54—								
March	Qtr. ..	15.33	15.44	13.47	14.67	14.29	14.48	14.94
June	.. ..	16.38	16.48	14.33	15.52	15.20	15.51	15.93
1954-55—								
September	.. ..	16.60	16.76	14.41	15.86	15.62	14.91	16.14
December	.. ..	17.53	17.45	15.14	16.26	15.78	15.51	16.86
March	.. ..	16.07	16.20	13.59	15.50	14.86	15.20	15.59
June	.. ..	17.64	17.81	14.90	16.73	15.92	16.76	17.07
1955-56—								
September	.. ..	17.79	17.75	15.16	16.98	16.12	16.11	17.16
December	.. ..	18.83	18.68	15.89	17.49	16.82	16.65	18.04
March	.. ..	17.46	17.43	14.54	16.43	16.08	16.25	16.81

(a) Includes Australian Capital Territory. (b) Includes Northern Territory. (c) Total wages as above divided by total civil employment expressed in male units. Male units represent total male employment plus a proportion of female employment based on the approximate ratio of female to male earnings. The same ratio has been used in each State and because the average ratio of female to male earnings may vary between States, precise comparisons between average earnings in different States cannot be made on the basis of the figures above.

NOTE.—Comparisons as to trend should be made for complete years or corresponding periods of incomplete years. Quarterly totals and averages are affected by seasonal influences.

UNEMPLOYMENT AND SICKNESS BENEFITS.(a)

NUMBER OF PERSONS ON BENEFIT AT END OF EACH MONTH.(b)

Period.	Unemployment.								Sickness.	Special.
	New South Wales.(d)	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.(e)	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	A.C.T. (f)	Australia.	Australia.	Australia.
Monthly Average—										
1947-48 (g) ..	637	140	2,640	49	390	32	..	3,888	8,538	517
1948-49 (g) ..	282	32	1,094	15	121	31	..	1,575	7,614	591
1949-50 (g) ..	8,327	123	1,371	241	155	30	..	10,247	7,585	897
1950-51 (g) ..	287	71	326	6	59	14	..	763	7,059	863
1951-52 (g) ..	949	220	1,374	24	64	16	..	2,647	6,454	993
1952-53 ..	17,590	6,168	4,281	842	841	262	..	29,984	7,140	1,408
1953-54 ..	6,495	2,698	3,169	252	406	212	..	13,232	7,994	1,868
1954-55 ..	1,440	539	1,408	66	153	81	3	3,690	7,984	1,983
Monthly Total—										
1953-54—										
May ..	3,014	1,161	1,986	79	225	107	..	6,572	7,996	1,853
June ..	2,810	1,203	1,657	79	225	109	..	6,083	7,802	1,852
1954-55—										
July ..	2,627	1,135	1,166	99	198	135	3	5,363	8,301	1,892
August ..	2,226	957	1,081	83	145	147	3	4,642	8,541	1,905
September ..	1,822	757	918	80	162	143	4	3,886	8,496	1,931
October ..	1,334	602	802	55	95	114	5	3,007	8,113	1,933
November ..	1,266	501	916	60	114	113	4	h2,975	8,169	1,931
December ..	1,179	480	1,228	64	136	73	3	3,163	7,890	1,935
January ..	1,248	437	2,165	67	144	52	4	4,117	7,495	1,999
February ..	1,132	363	2,371	57	147	46	3	4,119	7,862	2,028
March ..	1,240	286	2,347	43	131	35	2	i4,086	7,702	2,035
April ..	1,113	288	1,799	50	157	41	3	i3,453	7,599	2,076
May ..	1,049	335	1,140	62	171	32	4	h2,794	7,734	2,090
June ..	1,040	319	964	70	239	45	2	2,679	7,905	2,045
1955-56—										
July ..	1,068	335	615	55	268	67	2	2,410	8,111	2,007
August ..	899	367	539	49	248	83	2	h2,188	8,077	2,026
September ..	706	327	425	37	256	80	1	1,832	7,729	1,977
October ..	658	294	427	46	215	85	2	1,727	7,402	1,957
November ..	644	277	431	44	216	64	1	1,677	7,409	1,970
December ..	965	356	1,442	56	377	48	1	3,245	6,703	1,943
January ..	1,321	359	2,561	46	414	40	1	4,742	6,846	1,965
February ..	1,932	341	3,371	55	374	50	5	6,128	7,150	1,998
March ..	2,233	350	3,268	62	536	31	12	i6,494	6,855	1,966
April ..	1,771	566	2,223	86	683	30	18	i5,379	6,979	1,947
May ..	1,837	760	1,562	140	989	36	11	h5,336	7,129	1,977

(a) As furnished by the Department of Social Services. (b) Last Saturday of month. (c) Excludes migrants.
 (d) Includes Australian Capital Territory prior to July, 1954. (e) Includes Northern Territory prior to July, 1954. (f) Included with New South Wales prior to July, 1954. (g) Compiled from information furnished by the Department of Social Services on the operation of Part VII. of the Social Services Act 1947-1955. (h) Includes Northern Territory, 1. (i) Includes Northern Territory, 2.

UNEMPLOYMENT AND SICKNESS BENEFITS—continued.

NUMBER ADMITTED TO UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFIT AND AMOUNT PAID IN BENEFITS : AUSTRALIA.

Period.	Number Admitted to Unemployment Benefit.			Amount Paid in Benefits.				
	Males.	Females.	Persons.	Unemployment.	Sickness.	Special—		Total.
						Migrants.	Ordinary.	
				£	£	£	£	£
Monthly Average—								
1947-48.. ..	2,273	116	2,389	30,802	65,944	1,319	3,391	101,456
1948-49.. ..	955	56	1,011	11,570	66,319	7,088	4,225	89,202
1949-50.. ..	10,854	2,571	13,425	105,506	68,001	35,361		208,868
1950-51.. ..	881	111	992	5,204	62,143	13,520	5,568	86,435
1951-52.. ..	1,771	520	2,291	15,584	59,157	2,319	6,911	83,971
1952-53.. ..	12,793	1,797	14,590	380,812	116,108	8,172	16,197	521,289
1953-54.. ..	4,368	810	5,178	208,788	139,633	4,561	25,639	378,621
1954-55.. ..	1,529	496	2,025	56,620	133,987	4,534	24,848	219,989
Monthly Total—								
1953-54—								
May	2,389	764	3,153	123,805	138,620	6,826	29,375	298,626
June	1,730	564	2,294	84,689	110,169	7,846	25,139	227,843
1954-55—								
July	1,756	708	2,464	83,605	138,866	8,748	26,518	257,737
August	1,147	524	1,671	69,633	127,933	4,748	23,468	225,782
September	927	428	1,355	57,986	148,570	3,185	25,293	235,034
October	1,022	486	1,508	44,162	123,395	1,738	20,449	189,744
November	842	352	1,194	46,670	146,493	5,362	26,107	224,632
December	986	365	1,351	36,282	129,836	3,335	24,382	193,835
January	3,248	521	3,769	58,126	135,073	5,146	20,940	219,285
February	2,148	463	2,611	59,842	121,882	8,397	20,648	210,769
March	2,590	616	3,206	63,793	145,720	2,844	28,597	240,954
April	1,714	558	2,272	65,445	142,051	4,112	25,774	237,382
May	927	453	1,380	54,011	126,048	5,414	28,154	213,627
June	1,043	476	1,519	39,883	121,975	1,390	27,838	191,086
1955-56—								
July	1,076	638	1,714	37,265	127,405	3,745	32,994	201,409
August	681	363	1,044	30,073	127,300	3,404	25,402	186,179
September	607	276	883	29,572	154,338	4,307	32,351	220,568
October	706	363	1,069	23,563	121,599	11,343	16,726	173,231
November	663	338	1,001	22,461	120,050	4,763	24,762	172,036
December	2,225	449	2,674	23,298	121,350	2,603	23,519	170,770
January	3,733	439	4,172	52,714	139,321	6,945	26,958	225,938
February	5,851	850	6,701	80,469	119,925	7,737	22,343	230,474
March	3,776	816	4,592	90,790	123,763	3,278	24,865	242,696
April	3,078	694	3,772	108,321	120,559	8,714	24,419	262,013
May	2,987	790	3,777	86,573	119,215	4,563	25,652	236,003

VALUE OF RETAIL SALES IN AUSTRALIA(a): COMMODITY GROUPS.

The figures in the table below relate to goods (as distinct from services, accommodation, entertainments, meals, &c.) sold to the public by establishments selling retail goods from fixed premises (shops, rooms, kiosks, yards) and include the retail sales of establishments principally engaged in wholesale, manufacturing or servicing activities. The table contains particulars of retail sales of goods for the years 1947-48 to 1954-55 on a comparable basis throughout. The figures for the years 1947-48, 1948-49 and 1952-53 were obtained from Censuses taken in respect of those years, whereas figures for the other periods shown are estimates based on sample surveys. To provide comparability with the 1952-53 Census an adjustment has been made in the figures originally published for hardware, china and glassware for 1947-48 and subsequent periods.

(£ million.)

Period.	Groceries.	Butchers' Meat.	Other Food. (b)	Beer, Wine and Spirits.	Clothing, Drapery and Footwear.	Hardware.(c)	Electrical Goods.	Furniture.	Other Goods.	Total (Excl. Motor Vehicles, &c.)	Motor Vehicles, Parts, Petrol, &c.(d)
Quarterly Average—											
1947-48 ..	31.9	39.4		(e)	49.8	(e)	(e)	(e)	(e)	207.3	29.4
1948-49 ..	35.9	16.3	29.1	23.8	59.5	13.9	8.5	11.6	42.0	240.6	41.5
1949-50 ..	40.2	18.9	32.9	26.2	66.0	16.6	10.9	13.6	51.1	276.4	68.3
1950-51 ..	46.5	23.1	38.9	30.8	82.1	22.8	16.2	19.2	63.1	342.7	95.5
1951-52 ..	58.2	29.7	47.0	38.5	87.9	27.4	19.4	19.0	76.9	404.0	108.3
1952-53 ..	65.4	32.0	51.7	43.3	88.8	28.5	19.0	18.2	78.9	425.8	104.3
1953-54 ..	68.8	33.4	55.9	46.7	96.9	31.2	22.8	20.3	84.2	460.2	123.1
1954-55 ..	77.2	36.9	61.6	50.5	104.9	35.4	25.5	21.6	91.5	505.1	145.4
Quarterly Total—											
1951-52—											
Sept. Qtr. ..	53.2	27.9	43.2	32.3	83.4	26.2	20.5	20.7	71.1	378.5	105.6
Dec. „ ..	59.9	29.5	48.9	41.7	97.7	29.6	22.2	20.5	87.3	437.3	115.7
Mar. „ ..	58.2	30.1	48.4	41.3	77.9	26.7	18.2	17.2	74.2	392.2	108.5
June „ ..	61.6	31.2	47.3	38.6	92.6	27.1	16.6	17.7	74.9	407.6	103.5
1952-53—											
Sept. „ ..	62.8	31.8	48.6	38.7	80.3	26.4	16.9	17.3	74.7	397.5	95.2
Dec. „ ..	68.9	32.1	54.2	47.4	100.6	30.9	22.5	19.8	89.4	465.8	110.3
Mar. „ ..	63.2	31.2	51.8	44.9	76.5	27.2	18.4	17.5	75.0	405.7	101.5
June „ ..	66.6	32.7	52.2	42.0	97.7	29.3	18.0	18.2	76.4	433.1	110.3
1953-54—											
Sept. „ ..	67.9	33.4	53.0	41.9	88.0	29.6	20.1	19.6	78.9	432.4	113.5
Dec. „ ..	72.9	33.8	58.5	51.9	111.4	34.9	28.0	22.8	96.6	510.8	127.2
Mar. „ ..	65.6	32.7	56.0	48.3	82.7	28.7	22.1	18.1	78.6	432.8	117.7
June „ ..	68.7	34.0	56.2	44.6	105.3	31.5	21.0	20.5	82.8	464.6	133.9
1954-55—											
Sept. „ ..	72.5	36.2	58.2	45.4	96.9	34.1	23.3	21.8	82.4	470.8	141.1
Dec. „ ..	81.1	36.9	64.1	53.7	119.8	38.8	30.6	24.5	105.1	554.6	148.8
Mar. „ ..	75.1	36.2	62.1	53.3	89.4	33.1	25.4	19.1	86.7	480.4	137.8
June „ ..	80.0	38.2	62.2	49.6	113.4	35.0	23.2	21.4	91.5	514.5	153.7
1955-56—											
Sept. „ ..	81.6	39.1	64.2	49.0	102.1	37.4	27.4	23.5	92.9	517.2	167.9
Dec. „ ..	89.4	39.2	71.2	57.3	128.5	43.8	34.7	26.8	117.3	608.2	175.7

(a) Excludes Australian Capital Territory and Northern Territory. (b) Includes fresh fruit and vegetables, confectionery, soft drinks, ice cream, cakes, pastry, cooked provisions, fish, &c., but excludes some delivered milk and bread. (c) Excludes basic building materials (e.g. timber, roofing tiles, bricks, &c.). (d) Excludes farm machinery and implements, earth-moving equipment, &c. (e) Comparable commodity dissections for 1947-48 not collected.

RETAIL SALES : HIRE PURCHASE AGREEMENTS ENTERED INTO BY FINANCE COMPANIES.

The following statistics relate to businesses which finance the sale of goods by retail but do not retail goods themselves. Agreements originally made between retailers and customers, and subsequently assigned to finance companies are excluded from the particulars of agreements made during each quarter, but, from the time of assignment, are included in the figures for balances outstanding.

AGREEMENTS MADE DURING EACH QUARTER : AUSTRALIA.

Period.	Number of Agreements.	Value of Goods.(a)		Amount Financed.(b)		Average Proportion of Hire Purchase Sale Financed.(b) (Per cent.)
		Total. (£'000.)	Average per Agreement. (£)	Total. (£'000.)	Average per Agreement. (£)	
MOTOR VEHICLES, TRACTORS, ETC.						
Quarterly Average—	r	r		r		
1954-55	68,270	47,227	692	27,286	400	58
Quarterly Total—						
1955—March	64,263	44,416	691	25,637	399	58
June	72,853	51,946	713	29,965	411	58
September	80,173	55,949	698	33,060	412	59
December	77,568	54,793	r 706	32,607	r 420	60
1956—March	68,514	46,749	r 682	27,395	r 400	59

PLANT AND MACHINERY.

Quarterly Average—		r	r		r		
1954-55		3,691	2,324	r 630	1,417	r 384	61
Quarterly Total—							
1955—March		3,847	2,686	r 698	1,633	424	61
June		3,579	2,312	646	1,385	387	60
September		4,270	2,746	643	1,672	r 392	61
December		5,157	3,650	r 708	2,272	r 441	62
1956—March		4,735	3,004	r 634	1,855	r 392	r 62

HOUSEHOLD AND PERSONAL GOODS.

Quarterly Average—		r	r		r		
1954-55		158,140	12,078	76	9,781	62	r 81
Quarterly Total—							
1955—March		154,929	12,590	81	10,239	66	81
June		153,359	11,146	73	9,025	59	81
September		159,338	11,856	74	9,673	r 61	82
December		184,259	14,786	80	12,064	65	82
1956—March		167,755	13,281	r 79	10,704	r 64	r 81

TOTAL (ALL GOODS).

Quarterly Average—		r	r		r		
1954-55		230,100	61,629	268	38,484	167	62
Quarterly Total—							
1955—March		223,068	59,692	268	37,509	r 168	63
June		229,791	65,404	r 285	40,375	176	62
September		243,781	70,551	r 289	44,405	r 182	63
December		266,984	73,229	r 274	46,943	r 176	64
1956—March		241,004	63,034	r 262	39,954	r 166	63

(a) Value at net cash or list price (excluding hiring charges and insurance).

(b) Excludes hiring charges and insurance.

For meaning of symbol r, see page 1.

RETAIL SALES : HIRE PURCHASE AGREEMENTS ENTERED INTO BY FINANCE COMPANIES—continued.

BALANCES OUTSTANDING AT END OF EACH QUARTER.(a)
(INCLUDING HIRING CHARGES AND INSURANCE.)
(£'000.)

At end of—	New South Wales.(b)	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.(c)	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.
1954—							r
March Quarter ..	r 46,414	27,623	19,694	r 11,741	r 9,008	4,221	118,701
June ..	r 50,143	30,819	22,361	13,116	r 10,183	4,751	131,373
September ..	53,539	34,248	24,041	14,768	r 11,424	r 4,947	142,967
December ..	r 60,215	r 38,860	26,196	16,546	r 12,569	r 5,247	159,633
1955—							
March ..	r 64,105	r 41,824	r 27,106	r 17,219	r 13,240	r 5,887	169,381
June ..	r 67,833	r 44,555	r 28,669	r 18,093	r 14,180	r 6,973	180,303
September ..	r 73,718	r 48,236	r 30,579	r 19,459	r 15,128	r 7,424	194,544
December ..	r 77,901	r 53,080	r 32,001	r 21,033	r 16,092	r 7,892	207,999
1956—							
March ..	76,892	54,910	31,499	20,928	15,736	7,940	207,905

(a) Balances on agreements entered into during the quarter or at any time previously.

(b) Includes Australian Capital Territory.

(c) Includes Northern Territory.

WHOLESALE TRADE.

An indication of fluctuations in the value of wholesale trade is given by the returns made under the Sales Tax Acts. With certain specified exemptions, all goods sold by wholesale in Australia, including imports, are taxable. The returns do not relate to all wholesale trade, as vendors trading only in exempt goods are not required to furnish returns. They do not necessarily cover a constant proportion of all trade. The effects of legislation and administrative changes on the recorded values of taxable and exempt goods respectively are somewhat uncertain, but total recorded sales are affected in smaller degrees. Insufficient information is available to enable adjustment to be made to the crude figures on this account.

(£ million.)

Average Monthly Net Sales Recorded.				Month.	Monthly Taxable Net Sales at each Rate of Tax.(a)			Monthly Net Sales Recorded.		
Year.	Taxable Goods.	Exempt Goods.	Total.		10%	12½%	16⅔%	Taxable Goods.	Exempt Goods.	Total.
1936-37 ..	15.4	21.8	37.2	1954-55—						
1937-38 ..	16.9	23.6	40.5	Feb. ..	12.1	32.1	15.9	60.1	137.0	197.1
1938-39 ..	16.4	23.4	39.8	Mar. ..	13.2	35.6	18.2	67.0	157.6	224.6
				Apr. ..	11.5	32.2	16.2	59.9	140.9	200.8
				May ..	13.8	35.6	18.4	67.8	157.8	225.6
1946-47 ..	24.6	42.2	66.8	June ..	12.3	34.4	17.4	64.1	161.3	225.4
1947-48 ..	26.2	53.3	79.5	1955-56—						
1948-49 ..	30.3	63.1	93.4	July ..	11.7	32.7	17.2	61.6	145.4	207.0
1949-50 ..	38.0	72.2	110.2	August ..	13.9	37.2	19.1	70.2	160.3	230.5
1950-51 ..	45.6	94.9	140.5	Sept. ..	14.5	37.8	19.1	71.4	158.4	229.8
1951-52 ..	52.0	110.1	162.1	Oct. ..	15.5	39.5	17.9	72.9	151.8	224.7
1952-53 ..	46.3	111.8	158.1	Nov. ..	16.3	41.6	20.9	78.8	164.7	243.5
1953-54 ..	57.3	122.2	179.5	Dec.r ..	16.4	40.7	18.0	75.1	147.1	222.1
1954-55 ..	63.9	141.6	205.5	Jan.(b) r ..	9.8	30.0	11.3	51.1	127.0	178.1
				Feb.(b) ..	12.5	35.0	15.8	63.3	143.0	206.3

(a) On 19th August, 1954, the special rate of 10 per cent. was imposed.

(b) Preliminary and partly estimated.

For meaning of symbol r, see page 1.

IMPORTS OF MERCHANDISE : ECONOMIC CLASSES.

(£A'000 f.o.b. Port of Shipment.)

Period.	Producers' Materials for use in—										Fuels and Lubricants. (c)		Auxiliary Aids to Production.		Munitions and War Stores.	
	Building and Construction.	Rural Industries.		Manufacturing.				Total.								
				Motor Vehicle Assembly. <i>ab</i>		Other.										
				Class Ia.						Class Ib.		Class Ic (5).		Class Ic (1-4).		Class I.
Class Ia.		Class Ib.		Class Ic (5).		Class Ic (1-4).		Class I.		Class II.		Class III.		Class VII.		
Monthly Average—		%		%		%		%		%		%		%		%
1936-37 ..	347	4.0	143	1.7	(d)	(d)	3,435	39.9	3,925	45.6	621	7.2	408	4.7	31	0.4
1937-38 ..	472	4.4	155	1.5			4,285	40.2	4,912	46.1	784	7.4	470	4.4	36	0.4
1938-39 ..	385	4.1	171	1.8			3,599	38.2	4,155	44.1	736	7.8	469	4.9	88	0.9
1948-49 ..	1,194	3.5	318	0.9	(d)	(d)	13,545	39.2	15,057	43.6	3,037	8.8	2,212	6.4	257	0.7
1949-50 ..	2,026	4.5	431	1.0			14,438	32.3	16,895	37.8	3,852	8.6	2,390	5.4	129	0.3
1950-51 ..	3,408	5.5	415	0.7			23,426	37.9	27,249	44.1	5,032	8.1	2,831	4.6	94	0.2
1951-52 ..	4,898	5.6	518	0.6			34,630	39.6	40,046	45.8	5,902	6.7	5,236	6.0	1,132	1.3
1952-53 ..	1,482	3.5	368	0.9			14,620	34.4	16,470	38.8	5,313	12.5	1,894	4.5	755	1.8
1953-54 ..	1,946	3.4	441	0.8			20,691	36.6	23,078	40.8	5,633	10.0	1,891	3.3	351	0.6
1954-55 ..	3,044	4.3	517	0.7			27,158	38.7	30,719	43.7	4,790	6.9	2,366	3.4	728	0.9
Monthly Total—																
1953-54—																
May ..	2,421	4.0	410	0.7	(d)	(d)	22,421	37.3	25,252	42.0	6,532	10.9	2,350	3.9	321	0.5
June ..	2,528	3.3	641	0.8			30,623	40.3	33,792	44.4	4,916	6.5	2,666	3.5	282	0.4
1954-55—																
July ..	3,291	4.7	659	0.9	(d)	(d)	27,176	38.7	31,126	44.3	5,045	7.2	2,172	3.1	164	0.2
August ..	2,886	4.3	721	1.1			22,018	33.1	25,625	38.5	5,968	9.0	3,527	5.3	245	0.4
September ..	2,836	4.0	539	0.8			26,843	38.2	30,218	43.0	4,972	7.1	2,540	3.6	212	0.3
October ..	2,901	4.5	619	1.0			24,525	37.9	28,045	43.4	4,129	6.4	2,405	3.7	177	0.3
November ..	2,404	4.4	407	0.7			20,117	36.6	22,928	41.7	4,332	7.9	1,600	2.9	354	0.6
December ..	3,354	5.2	343	0.6			24,863	38.8	28,560	44.6	4,524	7.1	1,875	2.9	490	0.8
January ..	3,235	4.3	317	0.4			29,734	39.1	33,286	43.8	5,916	7.8	1,870	2.5	415	0.5
February ..	2,877	4.1	540	0.8			28,521	40.8	31,938	45.7	4,431	6.4	2,120	3.1	450	0.6
March ..	3,336	4.3	706	0.9			32,439	41.8	36,481	47.0	4,632	6.0	2,790	3.6	620	0.8
April ..	2,914	4.0	470	0.6			28,839	39.4	32,223	44.0	4,970	6.8	1,907	2.6	1,483	2.1
May ..	3,216	4.1	421	0.5			31,243	39.6	34,880	44.2	4,820	6.1	3,063	3.9	1,817	2.3
June ..	3,282	4.4	459	0.6			29,578	39.6	33,319	44.6	3,738	5.0	2,525	3.4	2,310	3.0
1955-56 p—							(e)		(e)(f)				(g)			
July ..	2,819	4.6	650	1.0	4,421	7.2	23,176	37.7	31,066	50.5	5,110	8.3	3,218	5.2	819	1.3
August ..	3,035	4.3	695	1.0	5,524	7.7	26,569	37.3	35,823	50.3	5,792	8.1	2,098	3.0	1,418	2.0
September ..	2,786	3.7	564	0.8	6,566	8.7	26,122	34.9	36,038	48.1	3,752	5.0	3,551	4.7	860	1.2
October ..	2,749	4.0	470	0.7	4,587	6.7	26,365	38.7	34,171	50.1	4,816	7.1	2,232	3.3	733	1.1
November ..	3,084	4.2	326	0.4	5,933	8.1	27,732	37.8	37,075	50.5	2,863	3.9	2,371	3.2	815	1.1
December ..	2,603	4.1	679	1.1	4,954	7.8	24,205	38.3	32,441	51.3	3,571	5.6	1,944	3.1	960	1.5
January(h) ..	2,446	3.8	483	0.8	5,241	8.3	23,944	37.7	32,114	50.6	3,811	6.0	1,661	2.6	876	1.4
February(h) ..	1,905	3.2	412	0.7	5,076	8.6	23,858	40.4	31,251	52.9	2,971	5.0	2,028	3.4	839	1.4
March(h) ..	2,597	3.2	520	0.6	8,028	10.0	29,917	37.2	41,062	51.0	3,364	4.2	2,553	3.1	1,515	1.9
April ..	2,452	3.6	424	0.6	5,838	8.6	25,566	37.7	34,280	50.5	3,255	4.8	2,395	3.5	822	1.2
May ..	2,456	3.4	934	1.3	6,085	8.5	26,112	36.5	35,587	49.7	4,258	6.0	2,731	3.8	2,356	3.3

(a) Owing to insufficient information it is not possible to treat unassembled tractors and other machinery in a similar manner to motor vehicles and all such machinery is treated as capital equipment whether imported in an assembled or unassembled condition. (b) Including replacement parts. (c) Excludes crude petroleum which is included in class Ic (1-4). (d) Included in class Vb. (e) Prior to July, 1955 includes piece goods to be sold at retail which since July, 1955 have been recorded in class VI. E-J and paper to be sold solely for wrapping which since July, 1955 has been recorded in class III. (f) Prior to July excludes completely knocked down vehicles, components for the assembly of motor vehicles and replacement parts which since July, 1955 have been recorded in class IC (5). (g) From July, 1955 includes a percentage for paper used solely for wrapping which was previously included in class Ic (1-4). (h) Affected by industrial dispute.

For meaning of symbols p, —, see page 1.

IMPORTS OF MERCHANDISE : ECONOMIC CLASSES—continued.

(£A'000 f.o.b. Port of Shipment.)

Period.	Capital Equipment.						Finished Consumer Goods.							
	Producers' Equipment.		Transport Equipment.				Food, Beverages and Tobacco.		Clothing and Accessories.		All Other.		Total.	
			Complete Road Vehicles and Assembled Chassis.		Railway Equipment Vessels and Civil Aircraft.									
	Class IV.		Class V. B.		Class V. A, C, D.		Class VI. A, B, C.		Class VI. D.		Class VI. E-J.		Class VI.	
Monthly Average—		%		%		%		%		%		%		%
1936-37 ..	884	10.3	872	10.2	146	1.7	516	6.0	46	0.5	1,157	13.4	1,719	19.9
1937-38 ..	1,149	10.9	1,161	11.0	205	1.9	531	5.0	68	0.6	1,299	12.3	1,898	17.9
1938-39 ..	1,104	11.7	899	9.5	119	1.3	564	6.0	84	0.9	1,217	12.9	1,865	19.8
1948-49 ..	3,409	9.9	4,231	12.2	355	1.0	1,619	4.7	614	1.8	3,714	10.9	5,947	17.4
1949-50 ..	5,297	11.9	8,643	19.3	497	1.1	2,163	4.8	578	1.3	4,233	9.5	6,974	15.6
1950-51 ..	6,679	10.8	9,245	15.0	1,137	1.8	2,873	4.7	745	1.2	5,896	9.5	9,514	15.4
1951-52 ..	9,960	11.4	10,942	12.5	1,661	1.9	3,074	3.5	1,149	1.3	8,377	9.6	12,600	14.4
1952-53 ..	8,409	19.7	3,569	8.3	1,703	4.0	1,917	4.5	130	0.3	2,369	5.6	4,416	10.4
1953-54 ..	9,474	16.8	5,769	10.2	1,552	2.7	2,658	4.7	446	0.8	5,697	10.1	8,801	15.6
1954-55 ..	10,289	14.8	7,377	10.5	1,824	2.6	3,236	4.6	614	0.9	8,138	11.7	11,988	17.2
Monthly Total—														
1953-54—														
May ..	8,929	14.8	7,220	12.0	1,315	2.2	1,959	3.3	447	0.7	5,819	9.7	8,225	13.7
June ..	11,554	15.2	8,770	11.5	2,398	3.2	3,084	4.0	444	0.6	8,100	10.7	11,628	15.3
1954-55—														
July ..	10,370	14.8	6,789	9.7	1,698	2.4	3,661	5.2	519	0.7	8,639	12.4	12,819	18.3
August ..	10,805	16.2	7,059	10.6	1,891	2.8	2,460	3.7	531	0.8	8,424	12.7	11,415	17.2
September	10,345	14.7	7,201	10.2	1,448	2.1	4,160	5.9	640	0.9	8,577	12.2	13,377	19.0
October..	10,267	15.9	5,809	9.0	2,346	3.6	2,121	3.3	586	0.9	8,730	13.5	11,437	17.7
November	7,633	13.9	6,280	11.5	1,421	2.6	2,432	4.5	468	0.9	7,456	13.5	10,356	18.9
December	9,446	14.7	6,198	9.6	2,042	3.2	3,208	4.9	608	1.0	7,131	11.2	10,947	17.1
January ..	11,380	15.0	8,129	10.7	2,216	2.9	3,033	4.0	853	1.1	8,915	11.7	12,801	16.8
February	9,247	13.2	7,244	10.4	2,120	3.0	4,613	6.6	845	1.2	6,844	9.8	12,302	17.6
March ..	10,429	13.4	7,258	9.3	2,314	3.0	4,333	5.6	886	1.1	7,929	10.2	13,148	16.9
April ..	10,564	14.4	8,437	11.5	1,558	2.1	3,591	4.9	612	0.9	7,890	10.7	12,093	16.5
May ..	11,363	14.4	9,185	11.7	1,681	2.1	2,675	3.4	412	0.5	8,962	11.4	12,049	15.3
June ..	11,623	15.6	8,931	12.0	1,157	1.5	2,548	3.4	408	0.6	8,151	10.9	11,107	14.9
1955-56 p—			(a)								(b)			
July ..	8,657	14.1	1,586	2.6	1,897	3.1	1,219	2.0	403	0.6	r7,552	12.3	r9,174	14.9
August ..	9,779	13.7	1,750	2.5	2,209	3.1	1,776	2.5	521	0.7	r10,029	14.1	r12,326	17.3
September	12,573	16.8	2,042	2.7	1,546	2.1	2,822	3.8	572	0.7	r11,155	14.9	r14,549	19.4
October ..	10,298	15.1	1,623	2.4	1,388	2.0	2,713	4.0	596	0.9	9,570	14.0	12,879	18.9
November	12,913	17.6	2,230	3.1	1,459	2.0	2,885	3.9	474	0.7	10,290	14.0	13,649	18.6
December	10,932	17.3	1,695	2.7	1,151	1.8	2,418	3.8	386	0.6	7,763	12.3	10,567	16.7
January(c)	10,566	16.7	2,126	3.4	1,337	2.1	2,116	3.3	522	0.8	8,295	13.1	10,933	17.2
February(c)	10,076	17.1	1,581	2.7	1,479	2.5	1,575	2.7	535	0.9	6,775	11.4	8,885	15.0
March(c)	13,354	16.6	2,064	2.6	3,096	3.8	3,126	3.9	766	1.0	r9,603	11.9	r13,495	16.8
April ..	11,971	17.6	1,449	2.2	2,268	3.3	2,846	4.2	475	0.7	r8,145	12.0	r11,466	16.9
May ..	12,253	17.1	1,515	2.1	1,625	2.3	1,849	2.6	357	0.5	8,988	12.6	11,194	15.7

(a) Prior to July, 1955 includes completely knocked down vehicles, components for the assembly of motor vehicles and replacement parts which since July, 1955 have been recorded in Class 1c.

(b) From July, 1955, includes a percentage for piece goods to be sold at retail which was previously included in Class 1c (1-4).

(c) Affected by industrial dispute.

For meaning of symbols p, r, —, see page 1.

IMPORTS OF MERCHANDISE : DEGREE OF MANUFACTURE.

(£A'000 f.o.b. Port of Shipment.)

Period.	Producers' Materials. (Class I.)			Finished Consumer Goods. (Class VI.)			Total Imports of Merchandise. (All Classes.)			
	Crude.	Simply transformed.	Elaborately transformed.	Crude.	Simply transformed.	Elaborately transformed.	Crude.	Simply transformed.	Elaborately transformed.	Total.
Monthly										
Average—										
1936-37 ..	1,024	373	2,528	45	303	1,371	1,069	1,505	6,032	8,606
1937-38 ..	1,241	449	3,222	48	300	1,550	1,289	1,796	7,530	10,615
1938-39 ..	1,100	351	2,704	55	309	1,501	1,155	1,627	6,653	9,435
1948-49 ..	3,273	2,059	9,725	133	899	4,915	3,406	6,738	24,361	34,505
1949-50 ..	3,916	1,777	11,202	180	1,277	5,517	4,096	7,851	32,730	44,677
1950-51 ..	7,007	3,178	17,075	273	1,600	7,636	7,280	10,954	43,547	61,781
1951-52 ..	7,788	4,788	27,469	359	1,446	10,795	8,147	13,933	65,399	87,479
1952-53 ..	4,712	2,195	9,563	251	1,182	2,983	4,963	9,443	28,123	42,529
1953-54 ..	6,260	3,189	13,629	385	1,471	6,945	6,645	11,384	38,520	56,549
1954-55 ..	8,818	4,986	16,748	428	2,082	9,478	9,246	13,167	47,668	70,081
Monthly Total—										
1953-54—										
May ..	6,828	3,669	14,755	256	1,174	6,795	7,084	12,468	40,592	60,144
June ..	8,647	4,954	20,191	474	1,840	9,314	9,121	13,173	53,712	76,006
1954-55—										
July ..	9,379	4,937	16,810	561	2,473	9,795	9,940	13,734	46,509	70,183
August ..	6,402	3,762	15,461	314	1,440	9,661	6,716	12,513	47,306	66,535
September ..	7,612	4,834	17,772	391	2,998	9,988	8,003	14,169	48,141	70,313
October ..	7,248	5,424	15,373	399	1,079	9,959	7,647	11,873	45,095	64,615
November ..	6,243	4,396	12,289	376	1,344	8,636	6,619	11,154	37,131	54,904
December ..	8,997	4,126	15,437	333	2,295	8,319	9,330	12,149	42,603	64,082
January ..	8,058	5,548	19,680	522	1,534	10,745	8,580	14,444	52,989	76,013
February ..	10,559	4,415	16,964	342	3,370	8,590	10,901	13,448	45,503	69,852
March ..	11,587	5,737	19,157	424	3,260	9,464	12,011	15,025	50,636	77,672
April ..	9,740	5,321	17,162	484	2,370	9,239	10,224	13,960	49,051	73,235
May ..	10,206	6,243	18,431	383	1,719	9,947	10,589	14,196	54,073	78,858
June ..	9,789	5,091	18,439	605	1,108	9,394	10,394	11,333	52,983	74,710
1955-56 p—										
July ..	9,709	3,716	17,641	238	361	r8,575	9,947	10,226	r41,354	r61,527
August ..	10,834	4,287	20,702	515	450	r11,261	11,349	11,750	r48,096	r71,195
September ..	8,169	4,650	23,219	348	1,646	12,555	8,517	11,503	r54,891	r74,911
October ..	8,226	5,623	20,322	341	1,638	r10,900	8,567	13,324	46,249	68,140
November ..	10,787	4,675	21,613	571	1,473	r11,605	11,358	10,384	51,633	73,375
December ..	10,549	4,241	17,651	233	1,450	r8,884	10,782	10,481	41,998	63,261
January(a) ..	9,441	4,241	18,432	615	759	r9,559	10,056	9,975	43,393	63,424
February(a) ..	10,492	4,259	16,500	221	930	r7,734	10,713	9,268	39,129	59,110
March(a) ..	13,331	4,719	23,012	676	1,744	r11,075	14,007	11,392	r55,104	r80,503
April ..	10,066	5,007	19,207	547	1,705	r9,214	10,613	11,279	r46,014	r67,906
May ..	10,215	4,671	20,701	382	1,048	9,764	10,597	11,383	49,539	71,519

Note.—Class II. consists entirely of goods " simply transformed ", and Classes IV., V. and VII. entirely of goods " more elaborately transformed ". Class III. is about equally divided between goods " simply " and " more elaborately " transformed.

(a) Affected by industrial dispute.

For meaning of symbols p, r, see page 1.

EXPORTS OF MERCHANDISE : PRINCIPAL COMMODITIES.

(£A'000 f.o.b. Port of Shipment.)

Period.	Meats.	Butter.	Wheat and Flour.	Fresh Fruits.	Dried Fruits.	Sugar and Sugar Syrups.	Hides and Skins.	Wool.	Lead.	Total Exports of Merchan- dise.
Monthly Average—										
1936-37.. ..	861	734	2,029	165	172	309	609	5,209	402	12,316
1937-38.. ..	1,021	898	2,245	171	224	336	516	3,915	409	11,719
1938-39.. ..	982	1,074	1,106	169	239	348	342	3,561	356	10,128
1948-49.. ..	(a)2,388	1,984	8,202	260	288	1,108	1,017	19,283	1,856	45,092
1949-50.. ..	2,854	2,056	7,376	328	241	1,185	1,263	26,096	1,416	50,971
1950-51.. ..	2,533	1,539	8,921	477	389	1,240	2,272	52,779	1,796	81,591
1951-52.. ..	2,957	383	7,359	572	472	586	1,428	26,953	2,156	55,437
1952-53.. ..	5,481	1,675	7,449	791	669	1,805	1,677	33,576	2,116	70,708
1953-54.. ..	4,816	1,338	5,053	774	617	2,639	1,620	34,202	2,004	67,655
1954-55.. ..	5,290	2,049	5,461	731	703	2,604	1,642	29,426	2,070	63,170
Monthly Total—										
1953-54—										
May	4,469	1,404	5,188	2,597	1,471	144	1,643	23,830	1,622	57,829
June	5,201	797	4,250	770	943	479	1,625	25,272	1,943	55,096
1954-55—										
July	6,114	374	3,820	350	1,312	1,977	1,709	21,295	1,396	52,020
August	5,858	401	4,768	165	1,301	4,226	1,371	8,947	3,663	43,912
September	6,083	1,084	3,940	67	766	4,809	2,059	21,003	1,682	54,769
October	6,081	1,945	5,303	143	845	2,983	1,817	39,281	2,181	72,656
November	4,822	1,567	4,338	116	118	1,560	1,069	25,726	1,942	49,926
December	8,340	4,193	7,232	114	400	3,546	2,146	43,569	2,455	84,154
January	5,592	3,345	4,944	36	265	2,812	1,382	30,442	1,885	63,618
February	4,921	3,194	8,207	239	363	3,190	1,778	32,359	1,368	67,251
March	3,845	1,722	6,250	1,008	283	1,364	1,902	40,104	3,122	77,007
April	3,388	1,128	5,220	2,468	510	2,247	1,139	28,609	1,152	56,904
May	4,568	2,658	5,701	2,448	944	1,619	1,936	29,030	1,494	66,840
June	3,868	2,994	5,806	1,617	1,334	919	1,396	32,743	2,496	68,984
1955-56p—										
July	4,605	1,504	4,473	588	1,482	1,183	1,637	26,899	2,201	60,885
August	5,590	1,376	5,653	308	1,004	2,111	r 2,259	11,262	2,376	48,732
September	4,863	1,068	4,569	122	958	3,267	1,988	17,512	2,896	51,434
October	r 6,478	3,399	4,582	143	211	2,267	1,668	r 30,488	1,799	65,616
November	r 8,328	3,689	r 5,519	195	r 125	3,643	1,943	r 37,941	2,743	r 78,484
December	7,911	4,295	r 3,823	55	534	1,608	2,132	37,071	2,034	72,924
January(b)	r 5,085	3,224	r 4,906	19	131	1,471	1,556	r 23,395	1,379	r 55,352
February(b)	995	106	2,754	50	14	1,033	456	8,231	283	r 20,369
March(b)	3,699	3,277	8,387	713	79	1,955	2,211	40,181	2,147	77,728
April	4,641	2,469	5,848	1,987	972	2,855	1,713	34,698	2,651	78,296
May	4,556	2,345	7,041	3,471	1,258	2,510	2,008	40,332	2,941	90,242

(a) Prior to July, 1948, included soups (1948-49 monthly average exports £92,000).

(b) Affected by Industrial Dispute.

For meaning of symbols p, r, —, see page 1.

EXPORT PRICE INDEXES.

These index numbers are compiled from the prices of 20 commodities which normally constitute about 80 per cent. of all exports. The index numbers show price changes in the predominant market or markets for each commodity.

SIMPLE AGGREGATIVE INDEX: FIXED WEIGHTS.

In this index the weights are the average annual exports of each commodity (production in the case of gold) during the three years 1933-34 to 1935-36.

(Base of each Group: Average of 3 years ended June, 1939 = 100.)

Period.	Wool.	Wheat.	Butter.	Metals. (a)	Meats. (b)	Sugar.	Dried Fruits. (c)	Tallow.	Hides. (d)	Gold. (e)	All Groups.	
											Excl. Gold.	Incl. Gold.
Percentage Distribution of Base Aggregate	(f) 45.63 (g) 49.05	17.06 18.34	11.36 12.21	6.83 7.34	6.63 7.13	2.40 2.58	1.81 1.94	0.64 0.69	0.66 0.72	6.98 ..	.. 100.00	100.00 ..
1936-37 ..	122	123	92	120	98	104	103	122	113	99	116	115
1937-38 ..	99	111	107	96	106	92	103	100	100	98	102	102
1938-39 ..	79	66	101	84	96	104	94	78	87	103	82	83
1948-49 ..	365	413	233	478	171	343	162	499	421	122	348	332
1949-50 ..	473	400	250	421	196	369	176	400	479	164	399	383
1950-51 ..	999	432	271	689	209	410	226	356	752	176	690	654
1951-52 ..	564	436	291	811	263	464	302	451	486	184	495	473
1952-53 ..	616	445	313	504	314	501	297	358	369	186	505	483
1953-54 ..	615	411	325	450	338	479	287	321	336	179	496	474
1954-55 ..	538	357	313	511	344	445	267	349	218	178	450	431
1953-54—												
May ..	618	372	325	474	340	461	281	369	281	178	492	470
June ..	622	369	325	484	340	448	281	359	278	178	494	472
1954-55—												
July ..	(h) 622	359	313	475	340	448	278	354	264	178	490	468
August ..	566	358	313	475	340	448	262	350	254	178	461	442
September ..	566	355	313	498	340	448	261	350	224	178	462	442
October ..	536	356	313	524	340	468	260	350	216	178	450	431
November ..	513	358	313	518	340	468	261	350	204	179	439	421
December ..	532	359	313	512	384	468	263	350	197	178	451	432
January ..	520	360	313	516	367	430	266	350	200	178	444	425
February ..	528	356	313	522	346	430	267	350	200	178	446	427
March ..	528	356	313	523	329	430	270	350	212	178	446	426
April ..	520	354	313	525	324	434	271	350	223	178	441	422
May ..	520	354	313	520	332	434	268	345	216	178	441	422
June ..	505	355	313	528	343	434	279	342	212	178	435	417
1955-56—												
July ..	(h) 505	352	313	538	359	468	266	342	225	178	437	419
August ..	453	351	313	538	365	468	266	341	234	178	411	395
September ..	437	334	313	545	398	468	278	344	235	178	404	388
October ..	437	329	337	543	408	454	282	351	238	178	406	390
November ..	437	323	364	549	383	454	284	366	227	178	407	391
December ..	453	315	368	575	p364	454	283	365	232	178	p414	p398
January ..	460	p313	361	590	p348	p441	p285	p356	239	178	p416	p400
February ..	460	p311	328	592	p331	p441	p288	p364	240	178	p411	p395
March ..	453	p312	304	592	p322	p441	p292	p364	247	178	p404	p388
April ..	p468	p310	273	579	p317	p441	p293	p354	248	178	p406	p390
May ..	p498	p321	265	556	p324	p441	p302	p344	241	178	p421	p404

(a) Silver, copper, tin, zinc, lead. (b) Beef, lamb, mutton, pork. Guaranteed minimum prices are used when operative.
 (c) Sultanas, lexias, currants. (d) Cattle hides, calf skins. (e) Where Australian gold has been sold on the overseas premium
 markets such price has been used in the index. (f) For all Groups (including Gold)—applicable from 1936-37. (g) For
 all Groups (excluding Gold)—applicable from 1936-37. (h) Nominal.

For meaning of symbol p, see page 1.

EXPORT PRICE INDEXES—continued.

RECENT TRENDS—EXPORT PRICE INDEX—WOOL AND "OTHER GROUPS".

Reference to the group indexes in the table on page 20 hereof shows the great fluctuations and the wide dispersion of prices of export commodities in recent years. In particular, very great movements upwards and downwards have occurred in the price of wool. Since wool is a predominant export (and comprises 46 per cent. of the Base Aggregate of the index) fluctuations in wool prices obscure the effects which movements in prices of the other components have on the All Groups index. For purposes of comparison they are shown separately below.

(Base of each Group : Average of 3 years ended June, 1939 = 100.)

Period.	1948-49			1949-50.			1950-51.			1951-52.		
	Wool.	Other Groups.	All Groups.	Wool.	Other Groups.	All Groups.	Wool.	Other Groups.	All Groups.	Wool.	Other Groups.	All Groups.
July	a351	316	332	a339	277	305	a592	333	451	a717	400	544
August	a351	313	330	a347	284	313	864	340	579	551	400	468
September ..	355	308	329	339	292	314	890	355	599	498	400	445
October	328	314	320	392	305	345	890	360	602	686	403	532
November ..	366	313	337	419	305	357	965	366	639	603	398	492
December ..	400	308	350	456	307	375	973	366	643	581	403	484
January	400	310	351	562	310	425	1,252	368	771	566	402	477
February ..	411	305	353	536	315	416	1,339	369	811	520	402	456
March	a411	304	353	524	316	411	1,437	377	860	460	400	427
April	332	294	311	a554	324	429	1,094	384	708	475	397	432
May	336	291	311	611	328	457	973	385	653	543	385	457
June	339	288	311	592	331	450	717	383	535	566	376	463
Average of Year	365	305	332	473	308	383	999	365	654	564	397	473

Period	1952-53.			1953-54.			1954-55.			1955-56.		
	Wool.	Other Groups.	All Groups.	Wool.	Other Groups.	All Groups.	Wool.	Other Groups.	All Groups.	Wool.	Other Groups.	All Groups.
July	a566	381	465	a641	369	493	a622	338	468	a505	347	419
August	a566	380	465	a634	367	488	566	338	442	453	347	395
September ..	551	379	457	626	365	484	566	339	442	437	347	388
October	588	370	469	634	363	486	536	344	431	437	351	390
November ..	588	368	469	634	360	485	513	343	421	437	352	391
December ..	618	376	486	611	358	473	532	348	432	453	p352	p398
January	618	376	486	603	354	468	520	345	425	460	p349	p400
February ..	626	371	487	581	350	455	528	342	427	460	p340	p395
March	656	369	500	581	351	456	528	341	426	453	p334	p388
April	671	363	503	a596	348	461	520	340	422	p468	p325	p390
May	701	361	516	618	346	470	520	340	422	p498	p325	p404
June	641	363	490	622	346	472	505	343	417			
Average of Year	616	371	483	615	356	474	538	342	431			

(a) Nominal.

NOTE.—The index numbers in the two preceding tables indicate satisfactorily the trends of export prices, but take no account of the relative quantities actually sold at the different prices ruling during each month. The impact of the price movements on current sales is indicated more directly by the index numbers below. In computing these the "quantity multipliers" are the quantities actually exported in the months (or periods) to which the index numbers relate. The index numbers for the most recent available month are :—

All Groups.	Month of May.		Eleven months ended May.	
	1955.	1956.	1955.	1956.
Excluding Wool	100	97	100	101
Including Wool	100	96	100	92

For meaning of symbol p, see page 1.

WHOLESALE PRICE (BASIC MATERIALS AND FOODSTUFFS) INDEX.

Commodities in this index are priced in their primary or basic form wherever possible. The prices used have in the main been obtained directly from manufacturers and merchants, and, with a few important exceptions, from Melbourne sources. Apart from locally-produced building materials and one or two minor commodities, however, the price movements may be taken as representative of variations in wholesale prices of basic materials in most Australian markets. The weighting system adopted is based on estimates of the average annual consumption of the commodities in Australia during the years 1928-29 to 1934-35 inclusive.

(Base of each Group : Average of 3 years ended June, 1939 = 100.)

Period.	Basic Materials.							Food-stuffs and Tobacco.	Basic Materials and Foodstuffs.		
	Metals and Coal. (a)	Oils, Fats and Waxes.	Textiles.	Chemicals.	Rubber and Hides.	Building Materials.	Total.		Goods principally Imported (b)	Goods principally Home Produced.	Total All Groups.
1936-37 ..	96	99	118	99	111	99	99	97	99	98	98
1937-38 ..	101	101	100	100	97	104	102	100	102	100	101
1938-39 ..	103	100	82	101	92	97	99	103	99	102	101
1948-49 ..	185	173	342	159	130	198	188	175	201	173	181
1949-50 ..	214	184	434	187	143	225	214	198	223	198	205
1950-51 ..	256	196	641	242	292	268	264	232	256	242	246
1951-52 ..	343	220	577	314	298	370	321	281	288	305	300
1952-53 ..	392	234	607	350	224	404	350	294	292	331	320
1953-54 ..	388	222	566	323	191	363	332	313	271	343	321
1954-55 ..	391	214	510	314	246	372	330	311	277	338	320
1953-54—											
May ..	390	217	563	316	184	359	329	306	266	338	316
June ..	384	218	569	316	182	358	327	308	267	337	316
1954-55—											
July ..	384	217	569	313	183	358	327	308	266	337	316
August ..	384	216	529	313	205	358	325	308	267	336	316
September ..	385	216	527	313	232	365	327	308	271	336	317
October ..	385	211	505	313	240	365	325	303	269	332	313
November ..	393	211	491	314	240	365	327	305	277	331	315
December ..	393	212	507	315	225	365	328	307	277	333	317
January ..	394	215	501	315	237	365	329	305	279	331	316
February ..	395	215	505	315	257	373	332	313	281	338	322
March ..	396	214	507	315	264	381	334	319	282	344	326
April ..	397	214	496	315	271	387	335	314	283	341	324
May ..	396	214	497	315	294	389	337	318	283	344	326
June ..	396	214	485	315	306	398	338	324	287	348	330
1955-56—											
July ..	397	214	486	315	307	398	338	p331	p281	p357	p334
August ..	397	215	452	315	323	398	337	p329	p282	p354	p333
September ..	405	215	441	315	333	398	340	p329	p290	p352	p334
October ..	405	215	441	315	336	398	340	p325	p289	p350	p332
November ..	404	216	437	317	347	407	342	p331	p291	p355	p336
December ..	404	216	447	317	342	407	342	p326	p291	p352	p334
January ..	405	216	453	317	330	407	343	p327	p288	p354	p334
February ..	405	216	453	317	325	408	343	p318	p288	p347	p329
March ..	405	230	446	317	323	425	350	p332	p299	p357	p340
April ..	403	230	p456	318	326	442	p353	p337	p303	p362	p344
May ..	p410	231	p477	317	322	444	p357	p344	p304	p369	p350

(a) Special purpose index for the "Metals and Coal" group excluding coal and briquettes for May, 1956 was 433. (b) Represents only such imported commodities as are included in the wholesale price index and does not measure changes in prices of all imports.

For meaning of symbol p, see page 1.

WHOLESALE PRICE INDEXES : VARIOUS COUNTRIES.

(Base : Average of 3 years ended June, 1939 = 100.)

Period.	Australia.	Canada.	France.	India.	New Zealand.	South Africa.	Sweden.	United Kingdom.	U.S.A.
	Bureau of Census and Statistics.	Dominion Bureau of Statistics.	Inst. Nat. de la Stat.	Economic Adviser to the Government of India.	Census and Statistics Department.	Bureau of Census and Statistics.	Board of Trade.	Board of Trade.	Bureau of Labour Statistics. (a)
1936-37 ..	98	101	83	104	96	97	98	100	104
1937-38 ..	101	104	105	100	102	103	103	104	101
1938-39 ..	101	95	112	96	102	100	99	96	95
1950-51 ..	246	224	(b) 123	(c) 426	210	216	237	288	211
1951-52 ..	300	229	145	414	243	252	285	321	213
1952-53 ..	320	216	141	386	252	269	278	320	209
1953-54 ..	321	214	137	397	248	270	268	320	209
1954-55 ..	320	211	135	365	249	274	272	326	208
1955-56—									
September ..	p334	216	137	353	250	283	283	335	211
October ..	p332	215	136	357	251	282	283	337	211
November ..	p336	215	137	365	251	284	287	340	210
December ..	p334	216	138	368	251	283	291	341	210
January ..	p334	217	139	376	252	284	292		212
February ..	p329	217	143	378	252	284	293		213
March ..	p340		140	387	254	283			213
April ..	p344			391	256	283			215
May ..	p350								216

(a) New Series (linked as at January, 1947, to former series to show movement prior to that date). (b) New Series. Base : 1949 = 100. (c) "Sensitive Series" prior to July, 1947. Thereafter "General Purpose Series", on base : Year ended August, 1939 = 100.

RETAIL PRICE INDEXES : VARIOUS COUNTRIES.

(Base : Average of 3 years ended June, 1939 = 100 (a).)

Period.	Australia.	Canada.	New Zealand.	South Africa.	United Kingdom.	United States of America.
	Bureau of Census and Statistics.	Dominion Bureau of Statistics.	Census and Statistics Department.	Bureau of Census and Statistics.	Ministry of Labour.	Bureau of Labour Statistics.
1936-37 ..	97.3	98	96	97	Base :	100
1937-38 ..	99.8	102	101	101	17th June,	101
1938-39 ..	102.9	100	103	102	1947=100 b	99
1949-50 ..	166.9	160	146	159	113	166
1950-51 ..	190.6	172	159	168	118	178
1951-52 ..	233.7	186	176	182	(c) 131	186
1952-53 ..	255.0	184	185	194	139	189
1953-54 ..	262.2	184	195	199	140	190
1954-55 ..	264.4	185	201	204	146	190
1955-56—						
July ..		184		207	150	190
August ..	271.9	185	204	206	149	190
September ..		186		208	150	190
October ..		186		209	152	190
November ..	274.6	186	204	208	154	190
December ..		186		208	154	190
January ..		186		208	153	190
February ..	278.0	185	206	209	(c) 153	
March ..		185		209	155	

(a) For bases of series for the United Kingdom, see notes (b) and (c). (b) New series on base 17th June, 1947 = 100 ; cannot be linked to former series. (c) New series linked to former series.

For meaning of symbols p, —, see page 1.

"C" SERIES RETAIL PRICE INDEX AND WAGE-RATE INDEXES.

In the tables on this and the following page the index numbers have been recomputed uniformly to the base average 3 years ended June, 1939 = 1,000 in order to facilitate comparisons with other data. The absolute index numbers differ, in consequence, from those appearing in other publications of the Bureau.

(Base of each Group : Average of 3 years ended June, 1939 = 1,000.)

Period.	Retail Price Indexes : Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities.					Weekly Wage-rate Indexes : Six States.	
	Food and Groceries.	Rent of 4 and 5 roomed houses.	Clothing.	Miscellaneous.	Food, &c., Rent, Clothing and Miscellaneous ("C" Series).	Nominal Rates, Adult Males.	"Real" Wage, Adult Males. (a)
1936-37	963	968	976	996	973	949	976
1937-38	989	1,001	1,006	1,003	998	1,007	1,009
1938-39	1,048	1,031	1,018	1,001	1,029	1,044	1,015
1948-49	1,531	1,058	2,264	1,349	1,528	1,757	1,150
1949-50	1,664	1,063	2,626	1,443	1,669	1,913	1,146
1950-51	1,998	1,076	3,044	1,597	1,906	2,298	1,206
1951-52	2,694	1,104	3,623	1,898	2,337	2,806	1,201
1952-53	2,950	1,194	3,893	2,124	2,550	3,104	1,217
1953-54	3,073	1,255	3,938	2,148	2,622	3,207	1,223
1954-55	3,098	1,309	3,940	2,145	2,644	3,249	1,229
1950-51—							
March Quarter	2,048	1,084	3,040	1,630	1,932	2,367	1,225
June "	2,203	1,087	3,357	1,710	2,067	2,507	1,213
1951-52—							
September Quarter	2,444	1,091	3,463	1,787	2,191	2,629	1,200
December "	2,644	1,094	3,582	1,870	2,303	2,771	1,203
March "	2,751	1,105	3,658	1,905	2,366	2,878	1,216
June "	2,937	1,124	3,789	2,031	2,488	2,946	1,184
1952-53—							
September Quarter	2,966	1,156	3,808	2,103	2,524	3,054	1,210
December "	2,908	1,181	3,884	2,121	2,530	3,102	1,226
March "	2,943	1,212	3,912	2,134	2,558	3,110	1,216
June "	2,981	1,227	3,967	2,138	2,586	3,150	1,218
1953-54—							
September Quarter	3,073	1,235	3,946	2,141	2,618	3,195	1,220
December "	3,092	1,243	3,933	2,147	2,624	3,206	1,222
March "	3,070	1,255	3,946	2,157	2,624	3,213	1,224
June "	3,055	1,286	3,927	2,148	2,621	3,214	1,226
1954-55—							
September Quarter	3,037	1,301	3,924	2,145	2,618	3,213	1,227
December "	3,063	1,306	3,939	2,147	2,631	3,233	1,229
March "	3,124	1,310	3,934	2,132	2,649	3,269	1,234
June "	3,169	1,320	3,961	2,157	2,678	3,283	1,226
1955-56—							
September Quarter	3,265	1,330	3,965	2,169	2,719	3,299	1,213
December "	3,308	1,337	3,971	2,218	2,746	3,345	1,218
March "	3,348	1,415	3,965	2,227	2,780	p3,371	1,213

(a) Index of nominal weekly wage rates for adult males divided by the "C" Series Retail Price index number.

For meaning of symbol p, see page 1.

"C" SERIES RETAIL PRICE INDEX, HOURS AND WAGES.

(Hours and Wages relate to Adult Males.)

Particulars.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Six Capitals or Six States.
1955 : March Quarter—							
Retail Prices—"C" Series (a)	2,712	2,596	2,475	2,605	2,835	2,724	2,649
Nominal weekly wage rate(a)..	3,369	3,211	3,129	3,165	3,290	3,366	3,269
"Real" " " " (a)(b)	1,242	1,237	1,264	1,215	1,160	1,236	1,234
Average Weekly Hours (a) ..	890	889	890	890	879	890	889
Federal metrop. basic wage (c)	243/-	235/-	218/-	231/-	236/-	242/-	236/-
State " " " .. (c)	243/-	(d) 235/-	(e) 225/-	(c) 231/-	(f) 246/6	(c) 242/-	..
1955 : June Quarter—							
Retail Prices—"C" Series (a)	2,733	2,627	2,488	2,653	2,897	2,750	2,678
Nominal weekly wage rate(a)..	3,374	3,243	3,129	3,169	3,334	3,369	3,283
"Real" " " " (a)(b)	1,235	1,234	1,258	1,194	1,151	1,225	1,226
Average Weekly Hours (a) ..	890	889	890	890	879	890	889
Federal metrop. basic wage (c)	243/-	235/-	218/-	231/-	236/-	242/-	236/-
State " " " .. (c)	243/-	(d) 237/-	(e) 225/-	(c) 231/-	(f) 246/6	(c) 242/-	..
1955 : September Quarter—							
Retail Prices—"C" Series (a)	2,769	2,698	2,505	2,668	2,888	2,782	2,719
Nominal weekly wage rate(a)..	3,379	3,265	3,154	3,174	3,391	3,373	3,299
"Real" " " " (a)(b)	1,220	1,210	1,259	1,190	1,174	1,212	1,213
Average Weekly Hours (a) ..	890	889	890	890	879	890	889
Federal metrop. basic wage (c)	243/-	235/-	218/-	231/-	236/-	242/-	236/-
State " " " .. (c)	243/-	(d) 240/-	(g) 227/-	(c) 231/-	(h) 252/5	(c) 242/-	..
1955 : December Quarter—							
Retail Prices—"C" Series (a)	2,787	2,747	2,507	2,691	2,902	2,832	2,746
Nominal weekly wage rate(a)..	3,458	3,307	3,177	3,174	3,398	3,374	3,345
"Real" " " " (a)(b)	1,241	1,204	1,267	1,179	1,171	1,191	1,218
Average Weekly Hours (a) ..	890	889	890	890	879	890	889
Federal metrop. basic wage (c)	243/-	235/-	218/-	231/-	236/-	242/-	236/-
State " " " .. (d)	253/-	(d) 246/-	(i) 229/-	(c) 231/-	(h) 252/5	(c) 242/-	..
1956 : March Quarter—							
Retail Prices—"C" Series (a)	2,808	2,798	2,549	2,693	2,938	2,930	2,780
Nominal weekly wage rate(a) p	3,488	3,339	3,191	3,174	3,413	3,447	3,371
"Real" " " " (a)(b)	1,242	1,193	1,252	1,179	1,162	1,176	1,213
Average Weekly Hours (a) ..	890	889	890	890	879	890	889
Federal metrop. basic wage (c)	243/-	235/-	218/-	231/-	236/-	242/-	236/-
State " " " .. (d)	255/-	(d) 251/-	(i) 229/-	(c) 231/-	(j) 253/8	(d) 259/-	..

(a) Base : Weighted Average Six Capitals (Retail Prices) or Six States (Wages and Hours) Average 3 years ended June, 1939 = 1,000.
 Retail price index numbers are for the capital cities. (b) Index of nominal weekly wage rates divided by "C" Series Retail Price Index Number.
 (c) Automatic adjustments discontinued. The rates shown came into operation from beginning of first pay-period commencing August, 1953. (d) Payable as from the beginning of the first pay-period commencing in the second month of the quarter shown. (e) Payable as from 1st February, 1954. (f) Payable as from 27th July, 1953. (g) Payable as from 1st August, 1955. (h) Payable as from 9th August, 1955. (i) Payable as from 24th October, 1955. (j) Payable as from 31st January, 1956.

For meaning of symbol p, see page 1.

INTERIM RETAIL PRICE INDEX.

The list of items covered by the Interim Index is representative of a high proportion of expenditure of wage earner households. It is more comprehensive than that of the "C" Series Index and some of the principal food weights and group weights differ substantially from those used in the "C" Series Index. The weighting pattern and the list of component items in the "C" Series Index relate to the pre-war pattern of wage earner expenditure and consumption, whilst those of the Interim Index relate to current conditions.

(Base of each Group : Year 1952-53 = 100.)

Period.	Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities.				
	Food.	Clothing and Drapery.	Rent.	Other Items.	Total All Groups.
Year ended June—1951	67.9	78.1	90.3	76.3	74.9
1952	89.4	93.8	92.6	91.3	91.4
1953	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1954	103.7	101.6	105.0	100.9	102.5
1955	104.6	102.4	109.6	101.4	103.6
Quarter ended—					
1954—March	104.0	101.8	104.9	101.2	102.7
June	103.7	101.5	107.7	100.9	102.7
September	103.0	101.6	108.9	101.2	102.7
December	103.7	102.3	109.3	101.2	103.2
1955—March	105.3	102.4	109.7	101.2	103.8
June	106.4	103.3	110.5	101.9	104.7
September	108.2	103.3	111.4	102.8	105.7
December	109.0	103.4	112.0	106.2	107.0
1956—March	110.6	103.3	118.8	106.7	108.3

FARM PRODUCTION PRICE INDEXES.

The annual index numbers shown in the following table relate to average "prices" of farm products realized in the principal markets of Australia. The "price" data used are average unit values for the total quantities of the relevant commodities produced or marketed in each year and the index numbers therefore measure both the effects of changes in prices (as such) and of variations in the quality, type, usage, &c., of products marketed. The index numbers for any year relate to the average values of farm products produced or marketed in that year, irrespective of the periods in which payment is received by producers.

The index numbers shown below are the Revised Series (December, 1952) in which average quantities of each product marketed in the period 1946-47 to 1950-51 have been used as fixed weights.

The preliminary index numbers for 1954-55 are based mainly on the recorded or estimated movement in average values for the major farm products. They will be reviewed from time to time as further "price" data become available.

(Base of each Group : Average of 3 years ended June, 1939 = 100.)

Year.	Agriculture.	Pastoral.	Farmyard and Dairying.	All Farming.	Wool (Shorn and Dead).	Products Other than Wool.
1936-37	114	115	93	109	126	104
1937-38	98	98	102	99	95	100
1938-39	88	87	105	92	79	96
1946-47	194	182	157	185	187	185
1947-48	267	263	183	247	301	230
1948-49	234	313	197	260	366	225
1949-50	272	396	228	316	483	261
1950-51	291	818	258	505	1,098	308
1951-52	355	501	332	410	552	363
1952-53	364	531	387	440	623	379
1953-54	323	534	395	428	621	364
1954-55	325	495	371	406	540	362

SHARE PRICE INDEXES.

In comparing movements in the two sets of index numbers on this page, attention should be paid to differences in the methods by which they have been constructed, and in the nature of the companies and the types of shares included in each index. These are outlined in the footnotes to the table.

(Base of each Group : Average of 3 years ended June, 1939 = 1,000.)

Period.	New South Wales : Ordinary Shares.(a)							Queensland : Ordinary Shares.(b)		
	23 Manufacturing and Distributing Companies.	10 Retail Companies.	8 Public Utility Companies.	5 Pastoral and Finance Companies.	5 Insurance Companies.	75 Companies (including 24 Miscellaneous).	34 Active shares in- cluded in foregoing. (c)	12 Industrials.	12 Financial and Trading.	24 Total of foregoing.
1936-37 ..	989	1,059	1,010	1,106	1,052	1,022	1,026	1,006	1,000	1,003
1937-38 ..	1,012	1,008	1,026	1,053	983	1,009	1,011	1,014	1,011	1,013
1938-39 ..	999	933	964	841	965	969	963	980	989	984
1948-49 ..	1,682	1,601	948	1,240	1,635	1,426	1,413	1,681	1,364	1,536
1949-50 ..	1,763	1,603	887	1,357	1,920	1,491	1,458	1,746	1,370	1,573
1950-51 ..	2,242	1,932	928	1,926	2,492	1,845	1,763	2,108	1,623	1,886
1951-52 ..	2,040	1,658	872	1,606	2,625	1,662	1,537	1,838	1,402	1,638
1952-53 ..	1,733	1,376	861	1,337	2,059	1,398	1,335	1,494	1,186	1,353
1953-54 ..	1,784	1,534	881	1,385	2,217	1,475	1,443	1,658	1,302	1,495
1954-55 ..	1,943	1,885	923	1,555	2,184	1,626	1,598	1,695	1,434	1,575
1953-54—										
May ..	1,793	1,611	895	1,445	2,187	1,499	1,479	1,659	1,351	1,517
June ..	1,830	1,650	897	1,498	2,143	1,516	1,493	1,667	1,358	1,525
1954-55—										
July ..	1,893	1,716	907	1,544	2,212	1,558	1,545	1,696	1,397	1,559
August ..	1,946	1,791	931	1,647	2,260	1,615	1,593	1,729	1,413	1,584
September	1,934	1,828	925	1,595	2,190	1,610	1,576	1,719	1,421	1,582
October ..	1,907	1,832	900	1,491	2,196	1,593	1,554	1,697	1,430	1,575
November	1,887	1,825	895	1,446	2,159	1,577	1,545	1,668	1,423	1,556
December	1,878	1,842	894	1,485	2,120	1,578	1,560	1,672	1,445	1,568
January ..	1,925	1,853	928	1,541	2,162	1,615	1,600	1,675	1,463	1,578
February	1,958	1,874	966	1,553	2,199	1,640	1,625	1,677	1,481	1,587
March ..	1,964	1,940	961	1,553	2,206	1,651	1,629	1,678	1,443	1,570
April ..	1,960	1,973	924	1,544	2,188	1,655	1,632	1,684	1,415	1,560
May ..	2,018	2,005	922	1,563	2,160	1,682	1,647	1,710	1,410	1,572
June ..	2,047	2,147	929	1,699	2,157	1,737	1,666	1,739	1,463	1,612
1955-56—										
July ..	2,110	2,329	933	1,855	2,172	1,798	1,731	1,755	1,494	1,635
August ..	2,117	2,267	929	1,813	2,223	1,789	1,719	1,809	1,499	1,674
September	2,074	2,181	950	1,771	2,163	1,752	1,687	1,721	1,494	1,617
October ..	2,082	2,160	939	1,808	2,157	1,753	1,681	1,694	1,468	1,590
November	2,044	2,147	922	1,768	2,133	1,727	1,648	1,699	1,473	1,596
December	2,039	2,189	900	1,780	2,147	1,734	1,655	1,701	1,477	1,598
January ..	2,059	2,235	854	1,782	2,169	1,746	1,669	1,736	1,489	1,622
February	2,043	2,230	842	1,780	2,159	1,735	1,659	1,746	1,469	1,619
March ..	2,006	2,169	845	1,729	2,079	1,700	1,609	1,740	1,480	1,620
April ..	1,995	2,153	833	1,679	2,089	1,688	1,599	1,740	1,473	1,618
May ..	1,972	2,061	829	1,639	2,098	1,663	1,583			

(a) Compiled by the New South Wales Government Statistician. The index numbers are based on the prices of the ordinary shares of companies (excluding banking companies) whose business is conducted wholly or largely in New South Wales. They represent unweighted averages of the mean monthly prices per £1 of paid-up capital. Adjustments are made where capital is written off or bonus shares issued. Recomputed from original base, par values.

(b) Compiled by the Queensland Bureau of Industry. The index numbers are based on the prices of the ordinary shares of 21 representative Queensland companies, and the preference shares of three companies whose ordinary shares are inactive. The index numbers represent unweighted averages. Mean monthly values are used. Recomputed from original base, April, 1928.

(c) These shares relate to leading companies and do not include bank shares or mining shares.

COMPARISON OF PRICE INDEXES.

(Base of each Group : Average of 3 years ended June, 1939 = 100.)

Period.	Export Prices.				Wholesale Prices.				Retail Prices.		
	Wool.	All Groups.			Basic Materials.	Basic Materials and Foodstuffs.			Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities.		
		Excluding Wool.	Excluding Gold.	Total.		Goods Principally Imported. (a)	Goods Principally Home-produced.	All Groups.	" C " Series Index.(b)		Interim Index.(c)
1936-37 ..	122	108	116	115	99	99	98	98	97.3	Base : 1952-53 = 100	
1937-38 ..	99	105	102	102	102	102	100	101	99.8	(Recomputed for purposes of comparison)	
1938-39 ..	79	87	82	83	99	99	102	101	102.9		
1948-49 ..	365	305	348	332	188	201	173	181	152.8		
1949-50 ..	473	308	399	383	214	223	198	205	166.9		
1950-51 ..	999	365	690	654	264	256	242	246	190.6	74.8	74.9
1951-52 ..	564	397	495	473	321	288	305	300	233.7	91.7	91.4
1952-53 ..	616	371	505	483	350	292	331	320	255.0	100.0	100.0
1953-54 ..	615	356	496	474	332	271	343	321	262.2	102.8	102.5
1954-55 ..	538	342	450	431	330	277	338	320	264.4	103.7	103.6
1953-54—											
April ..	(d)596	348	482	461	328	266	337	316	} 262.1	102.8	102.7
May ..	618	346	492	470	329	266	338	316			
June ..	622	346	494	472	327	267	337	316			
1954-55—											
July ..	(d)622	338	490	468	327	266	337	316	} 261.8	102.6	102.7
August ..	566	338	461	442	325	267	336	316			
September	566	339	462	442	327	271	336	317			
October ..	536	344	450	431	325	269	332	313	} 263.1	103.2	103.2
November	513	343	439	421	327	277	331	315			
December	532	348	451	432	328	277	333	317			
January ..	520	345	444	425	329	279	331	316	} 264.9	103.9	103.8
February..	528	342	446	427	332	281	338	322			
March ..	528	341	446	426	334	282	344	326			
April ..	520	340	441	422	335	283	341	324	} 267.8	105.0	104.7
May ..	520	340	441	422	337	283	344	326			
June ..	505	343	435	417	338	287	348	330			
1955-56—											
July ..	(d)505	347	437	419	338	p281	p357	p334	} 271.9	106.6	105.7
August ..	453	347	411	395	337	p282	p354	p333			
September	437	347	404	388	340	p290	p352	p334			
October ..	437	351	406	390	340	p289	p350	p332	} 274.6	107.7	107.0
November	437	352	407	391	342	p291	p355	p336			
December	453	p352	p414	p398	342	p291	p352	p334			
January ..	460	p349	p416	p400	343	p288	p354	p334	} 278.0	109.0	108.3
February..	460	p340	p411	p395	343	p288	p347	p329			
March ..	453	p334	p404	p388	350	p299	p357	p340			
April ..	p468	p325	p406	p390	p353	p303	p362	p344			
May ..	p498	p325	p421	p404	p357	p304	p369	p350			

(a) Represents only such imported commodities as are included in the wholesale price index and does not measure changes in prices of all imports.
 (b) Covers Food and Groceries, House Rent, Clothing and Miscellaneous Items. (c) See note at head of page 26. (d) Nominal.

For meaning of symbol p, see page 1.

BUILDING PERMITS : SIX CAPITAL CITIES AND SUBURBS.

(As granted by local government authorities. Excludes government buildings except as indicated in note (a), page 31.)

Period.	New Dwellings.		Other New Buildings.		Total New Buildings.		Alterations and Additions.	Total.
	Number.	Value.	Number.	Value.	Number.	Value.	Value.	Value.
Monthly Average—		£'000.		£'000.		£'000.	£'000.	£'000.
1936-37(a) ..	1,122	1,104	154	474	1,276	1,578	408	1,986
1937-38(a) ..	1,394	1,413	147	472	1,541	1,885	422	2,307
1938-39(a) ..	1,463	1,509	137	424	1,600	1,933	420	2,353
1947-48(b) ..	2,381	3,649	124	453	2,505	4,102	585	4,687
1948-49.. ..	2,621	4,457	110	440	2,731	4,897	680	5,577
1949-50.. ..	3,045	5,770	113	460	3,158	6,230	899	7,129
1950-51.. ..	3,558	7,857	151	1,062	3,709	8,919	1,507	10,426
1951-52.. ..	2,736	6,703	165	1,270	2,901	7,973	1,727	9,700
1952-53.. ..	2,506	6,472	303	1,744	2,809	8,216	1,829	10,045
1953-54.. ..	2,663	7,747	328	2,538	2,991	10,285	2,071	12,356
1954-55(c) ..	3,673	11,244	378	4,083	4,051	15,327	2,593	17,920
Monthly Total—								
1953-54—								
March	2,996	8,568	366	3,016	3,362	11,584	2,169	13,753
April	2,835	8,002	338	3,372	3,173	11,374	2,248	13,622
May	2,808	8,497	317	2,413	3,125	10,910	1,994	12,904
June	2,931	8,650	372	4,072	3,303	12,722	2,767	15,489
1954-55—								
July(c)	3,759	11,010	416	4,605	4,175	15,615	2,788	18,403
August	4,108	12,219	452	2,851	4,560	15,070	2,576	17,646
September ..	4,464	13,238	426	3,821	4,890	17,059	3,019	20,078
October	3,847	11,550	374	2,821	4,221	14,371	2,424	16,795
November ..	3,797	11,359	388	6,381	4,185	17,740	2,755	20,495
December ..	3,225	9,699	274	2,578	3,499	12,277	1,897	14,174
January	2,706	8,284	269	3,709	2,975	11,993	1,983	13,976
February ..	3,595	10,907	387	4,273	3,982	15,180	2,219	17,399
March	3,670	12,064	354	4,235	4,024	16,299	2,608	18,907
April	3,212	10,137	339	4,430	3,551	14,567	2,561	17,128
May	3,725	11,889	451	3,566	4,176	15,455	3,289	18,744
June	3,969	12,577	408	5,731	4,377	18,308	3,000	21,308
1955-56—								
July	3,637	11,394	364	4,143	4,001	15,537	2,701	18,238
August	3,904	12,253	389	7,159	4,293	19,412	3,166	22,578
September ..	3,983	12,533	414	4,341	4,397	16,874	2,991	19,865
October	3,825	12,120	355	3,604	4,180	15,724	2,473	18,197
November ..	3,758	12,112	324	5,098	4,082	17,210	2,498	19,708
December ..	2,678	8,526	294	5,352	2,972	13,878	2,352	16,230
January	2,648	9,012	242	3,380	2,890	12,392	2,282	14,674
February ..	3,174	10,410	332	5,455	3,506	15,865	2,867	18,732
March	3,314	11,011	357	6,134	3,671	17,145	3,187	20,332

(a) Excludes suburbs of Hobart. (b) From July, 1947, includes additional areas in the metropolitan area of Melbourne. For details see September, 1954, issue of this publication. (c) From July, 1954, includes additional areas in the metropolitan areas of Sydney, Melbourne and Hobart. For details see September, 1954, issue of this publication.

NOTE.—Building controls under National Security (Building Control) Regulations operated from 5th December, 1940, becoming most stringent in 1942, when consent was required for all building other than alterations and additions costing less than £25. These controls were progressively relaxed after 1945 and have now ceased to exist in all States. For more detailed notes see earlier issues of this publication.

The "value of permits" shown above relates to the value of building permits issued by local government authorities and not to approvals granted under the Regulations.

For meaning of symbol —, see page 1.

BUILDING OPERATIONS : METROPOLITAN AND PROVINCIAL.

(Figures for government buildings relate to contracts let or day-labour work commenced. Figures for private buildings relate only to permits issued by local government authorities. Alterations and additions are included.)

(£'000.)

Period.	Australia.			New South Wales			Victoria.		
	Government.	Private.(a)		Government. (b)	Private.		Government.	Private.	
	Common-wealth and State.	Six Capital Cities and Suburbs.	Other recorded areas.	Common-wealth and State.	Sydney Metrop. Area.	Other recorded areas. See Note A.	Common-wealth and State.	Melbourne Metrop. Area.	Other recorded areas. See Note B.
Monthly Average—									
1936-37 ..	n.a.	(c)1,986	(d)627	n.a.	848	416	n.a.	667	62
1937-38 ..	n.a.	(c)2,307	(d)764	n.a.	1,093	506	n.a.	669	78
1938-39 ..	408	(c)2,353	(d)755	187	1,111	495	107	702	63
1948-49 ..	1,992	(e)5,577	(f)3,832	904	2,089	(g)2,432	675	(e)1,804	211
1949-50 ..	2,751	7,129	4,863	985	2,625	3,101	1,067	2,218	217
1950-51 ..	4,348	10,426	(h)8,568	1,964	3,610	4,519	1,428	3,187	(h)2,031
1951-52 ..	3,631	9,700	7,877	1,603	2,679	3,717	960	2,831	1,947
1952-53 ..	2,772	10,045	7,671	923	2,799	3,542	1,129	2,906	1,931
1953-54 ..	(i)4,619	12,356	9,693	1,912	3,553	4,622	1,653	3,890	2,297
1954-55 ..	5,936	j 17,920	(j)8,379	2,461	(k)6,340	(k)3,550	1,779	(k)5,598	(k)1,812
1953-54—									
March Qtr.	3,839	11,434	8,822	1,189	3,498	4,248	1,407	3,277	1,973
June ..	(i)5,846	14,005	10,838	2,180	3,742	5,156	2,215	4,764	2,568
1954-55—									
September ..	4,773	j 18,709	(j)8,863	1,812	(k)6,419	(k)3,821	1,485	(k)5,643	(k)2,062
December ..	5,845	17,154	8,240	2,098	6,350	3,582	1,998	5,334	1,774
March ..	5,873	16,761	7,712	2,451	5,393	3,022	1,478	5,426	1,635
June ..	7,255	19,060	8,704	3,482	7,199	3,775	2,155	5,988	1,777
1955-56—									
September ..	6,341	20,227	10,085	2,767	7,273	3,653	1,146	6,495	3,224
December ..	6,415	18,045	8,921	2,681	5,899	3,292	2,164	5,899	1,873
March ..	4,425	17,912	7,892	1,156	6,778	r3,121	1,500	r5,699	1,939
Monthly Total—									
1954-55—									
June ..	9,770	21,308	n.a.	5,727	8,034	4,362	2,366	6,494	2,064
1955-56—									
July ..	4,590	18,238	n.a.	1,744	6,298	3,546	1,556	6,269	1,992
August ..	3,800	22,578	n.a.	1,653	9,176	3,594	765	6,540	2,310
September ..	10,635	19,865	n.a.	4,905	6,346	3,818	1,116	6,676	5,371
October ..	5,621	18,197	n.a.	2,115	5,552	3,560	2,137	5,834	2,091
November ..	7,070	19,708	n.a.	2,832	6,322	3,270	2,139	6,496	2,085
December ..	6,554	16,230	n.a.	3,097	5,823	3,046	2,215	5,367	1,442
January ..	4,146	14,674	n.a.	794	5,775	2,917	858	4,096	1,513
February ..	4,594	18,732	n.a.	1,360	7,436	3,091	1,699	6,106	2,225
March ..	4,534	20,332	n.a.	1,313	7,123	3,356	1,944	6,896	2,081
April ..					6,028	3,234		5,554	1,690

(a) See note (a) on page 31. (b) Includes Australian Capital Territory. (c) Excludes suburbs of Hobart. (d) Incomplete, excludes Western Australia. (e) From July, 1947, the metropolitan area of Melbourne includes some additional areas. For details see September, 1954, issue of this publication. (f) See A, below and C, E and F, page 31. (g) See A below. (h) See B below. (i) See note (f), page 31. (j) See note (h), this page and note (g), page 31. (k) From July, 1954, the metropolitan area includes some additional areas previously included in "Other Recorded Areas". For details see September, 1954, issue of this publication.

NOTES.

A. Includes 129 Country Towns and seven Shires near Sydney to June quarter, 1947, thereafter all areas outside Sydney and suburbs.
B. Includes the Cities of Ballarat, Bendigo, Geelong, Geelong West, Horsham, Mildura, Newtown and Chilwell, Sale, Shepparton and Warrnambool to June quarter, 1950, thereafter all areas outside Melbourne and suburbs.

For meaning of symbols n.a., r., —, see page 1.

BUILDING OPERATIONS : METROPOLITAN AND PROVINCIAL—continued.

(Figures for government buildings relate to contracts let or day labour work commenced. Figures for private buildings relate only to permits issued by local government authorities. Alterations and additions are included.)

(£'000.)

Period.	Queensland.			South Australia.			Western Australia.			Tasmania.		
	Government.		Private.(a)	Government.(b)		Private.(a)	Government.		Private.(a)	Government.		Private.(a)
	Common-wealth and State.	Brisbane Metrop. Area.		Common-wealth and State.	Adelaide Metrop. Area.		Common-wealth and State.	Perth Metrop. Area.		Common-wealth and State.	Hobart Metrop. Area.	
			Other recorded areas. See Note C.			Other recorded areas. See Note D.			Other recorded areas. See Note E.			Other recorded areas. See Note F.
Monthly Average—												
1936-37 ..	n.a.	153	98	n.a.	118	32	n.a.	168	n.a.	n.a.	32	19
1937-38 ..	n.a.	167	114	n.a.	173	48	n.a.	174	n.a.	n.a.	31	18
1938-39 ..	34	171	118	22	192	63	38	145	n.a.	20	32	16
1948-49 ..	116	610	(c) 721	105	564	132	145	338	70	47	(d) 172	(e) 266
1949-50 ..	198	827	868	217	727	188	197	499	111	87	233	378
1950-51 ..	357	1,106	1,061	216	1,174	215	270	1,027	274	113	322	468
1951-52 ..	228	1,426	1,107	377	1,386	265	379	1,120	347	84	258	494
1952-53 ..	232	1,376	1,209	226	1,525	336	219	1,157	320	43	282	333
1953-54 ..	(f) 303	1,299	1,404	320	1,485	392	314	1,749	548	117	380	430
1954-55 ..	489	1,449	1,545	475	2,170	463	570	1,941	535	162	(g) 422	(g) 474
1953-54—												
March Qtr.	345	1,285	1,404	343	1,321	383	444	1,647	473	111	406	341
June ..	(f) 553	1,199	1,388	375	1,722	441	307	2,239	743	216	339	542
1954-55—												
Sept. ..	541	1,591	1,385	426	2,084	462	399	2,399	645	110	(g) 573	(g) 488
Dec. ..	467	1,322	1,526	715	1,837	395	352	1,918	537	215	393	426
Mar. ..	502	1,614	1,715	179	2,352	465	1,064	1,583	388	199	393	487
June ..	447	1,270	1,554	583	2,408	530	464	1,865	572	124	330	496
1955-56—												
Sept. ..	465	1,528	1,770	1,532	2,531	496	292	1,959	440	139	441	502
Dec. ..	476	1,887	1,566	704	2,324	1,300	297	1,616	410	93	420	480
Mar. ..	559	1,364	1,370	772	2,397	493	386	1,233	416	52	441	553
Monthly Total—												
1954-55—												
June ..	580	1,540	1,880	467	3,041	n.a.	398	1,947	751	232	252	459
1955-56—												
July ..	406	1,678	1,470	367	1,755	n.a.	369	1,843	415	148	395	463
August ..	453	1,227	1,525	520	2,880	n.a.	366	2,238	486	43	517	510
September ..	534	1,679	2,316	h3,711	2,958	n.a.	142	1,795	420	227	411	533
October ..	583	1,386	1,589	322	2,870	n.a.	372	1,821	472	92	734	638
November ..	568	2,460	1,648	1,198	2,595	n.a.	326	1,600	426	7	235	488
December ..	276	1,815	1,462	593	1,507	n.a.	192	1,428	332	181	290	314
January ..	741	1,394	883	1,391	2,165	n.a.	354	908	382	8	336	424
February ..	319	1,260	1,638	530	2,388	n.a.	606	1,183	428	80	359	686
March ..	616	1,438	1,588	396	2,637	n.a.	199	1,609	439	66	629	550
April ..					2,102	n.a.					361	506

(a) Includes buildings erected under government home building schemes where permits obtained from local government authorities.
 (b) Includes Northern Territory. (c) See C below. (d) Previously Hobart city area only. From September quarter, 1946, includes the whole metropolitan area of Hobart. (e) See F below. (f) From June quarter, 1954, includes the approvals of Hospital Boards not previously collected. (g) From July, 1954, the metropolitan area includes some additional areas previously included in "Other Recorded Areas." For details see September, 1954, issue of this publication. (h) Includes four hospital buildings, £3,309,000.

NOTES.

C. Includes the Cities of Bundaberg, Cairns, Charters Towers, Gympie, Ipswich, Mackay, Maryborough, Rockhampton, Toowoomba, Townsville and Warwick, and the Towns of Bowen, Charleville, Dalby, Innisfail, Longreach, Redcliffe, Roma, Southport, and Stanthorpe to June quarter, 1947, thereafter all areas outside Brisbane and suburbs.

D. Includes local government areas, and estimate for unincorporated areas.

E. Includes 86 country local authorities, representing approximately 86 per cent. of provincial population.

F. Launceston only to June quarter, 1946, thereafter all areas outside Hobart and suburbs.

For meaning of symbols n.a., —, see page 1.

VALUE (WHEN COMPLETED) OF NEW BUILDINGS.

(Including Estimated Value of Owner-built Houses.)
(£'000.)

Period.	Commenced.			Completed.			Under Construction at end of period.		
	Houses.	Other.	Total.	Houses.	Other.	Total.	Houses. (a)	Other.	Total. (a)
Quarterly Average.									
1948-49	a22,277	6,940	a29,217	a18,331	3,932	a22,263	86,832	49,135	135,967
1949-50	a27,516	8,014	a35,530	a22,446	5,251	a27,697	115,714	61,119	176,833
1950-51	a40,478	14,615	a55,093	a31,222	6,258	a37,480	162,481	91,632	254,113
1951-52	44,951	16,224	61,175	43,110	10,876	53,986	187,631	125,534	313,165
1952-53	39,358	13,909	53,267	47,514	18,169	65,683	167,584	115,629	283,213
1953-54	48,471	24,220	72,691	48,455	20,962	69,417	175,896	133,478	309,374
1954-55(b)	52,367	33,197	85,564	54,125	24,037	78,162	178,672	156,151	334,823
Quarterly Total.									
1953-54—									
March Qtr. ..	48,338	25,053	73,391	43,544	20,830	64,374	173,784	121,134	294,918
June	50,271	31,323	81,594	49,877	21,262	71,139	175,896	133,478	309,374
1954-55—									
Sept.(b)	53,801	32,712	86,513	52,361	23,461	75,822	180,253	143,860	324,113
Dec.	51,850	26,282	78,132	57,097	23,784	80,881	177,282	146,986	324,268
March	50,072	37,327	87,399	49,407	22,435	71,842	179,678	162,446	342,124
June	53,751	36,470	90,221	57,636	26,469	84,105	177,477	171,309	348,786
1955-56—									
Sept.	56,433	44,004	100,437	54,437	29,865	84,302	181,724	189,630	371,354
Dec.	52,110	39,034	91,144	58,101	34,978	93,079	178,253	194,779	373,032
March	50,710	45,243	95,953	51,074	32,277	83,351	179,772	209,904	389,676

(a) Partly estimated.

(b) From September Quarter 1954, includes Northern Territory.

VALUE OF NEW BUILDINGS COMPLETED.

(Including Estimated Value of Owner-built Houses.)
(£'000.)

Period.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australian Capital Territory.	Northern Territory.	Total.
Quarterly Average—									
1948-49	(a) 8,434	6,839	3,050	1,621	1,177	953	189	n.a.	(a)22,263
1949-50	(a)10,230	8,671	3,488	2,268	1,338	1,336	366	n.a.	(a)27,697
1950-51	(a)12,367	13,014	4,322	3,010	2,237	2,101	429	n.a.	(a)37,480
1951-52	19,052	17,154	6,335	4,531	3,606	2,628	680	n.a.	53,986
1952-53	24,512	19,027	6,558	6,471	5,730	2,666	718	n.a.	65,682
1953-54	25,386	21,188	6,478	6,527	6,446	2,423	970	n.a.	69,418
1954-55	27,674	24,303	7,079	6,770	8,524	2,665	735	413	78,163
Quarterly Total—									
1953-54—									
March Qtr. ..	23,292	19,636	5,666	6,569	5,621	2,741	849	n.a.	64,374
June	27,407	19,722	6,888	7,014	6,582	2,445	1,081	n.a.	71,139
1954-55—									
Sept.	27,119	23,503	5,933	7,420	7,951	2,641	833	422	75,822
Dec.	29,834	24,438	7,394	7,287	8,151	2,552	902	323	80,881
March	24,403	22,918	6,620	5,935	8,334	2,730	373	529	71,842
June	29,338	26,357	8,371	6,439	9,660	2,726	835	379	84,105
1955-56—									
Sept.	30,397	24,279	7,413	7,528	9,546	3,469	1,220	450	84,302
Dec.	33,254	29,562	8,598	8,219	9,050	2,861	964	571	93,079
Mar.	r27,387	28,742	6,503	7,941	7,574	3,535	1,252	417	83,351

(a) Partly estimated.

For meaning of symbols n.a., r, —, see page 1.

NUMBER OF NEW HOUSES.

(Including Owner-built Houses.)

Period.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australian Capital Territory.	Northern Territory.	Total.
COMMENCED.									
Quarterly Average—									
1948-49	(a)5,323	4,122	2,340	1,140	961	712	134	n.a.	(a)14,732
1949-50	(a)5,514	4,911	2,502	1,527	1,258	916	97	n.a.	(a)16,725
1950-51	(a)6,292	6,737	2,675	1,991	1,742	1,030	219	n.a.	(a)20,686
1951-52	6,091	5,877	2,999	2,128	1,932	896	78	n.a.	20,001
1952-53	5,258	4,064	2,345	1,992	1,753	571	132	n.a.	16,115
1953-54	7,099	5,229	2,128	1,698	1,902	666	89	n.a.	18,811
1954-55	6,375	5,668	1,946	1,797	2,144	718	160	62	18,870
Quarterly Total—									
1953-54—Mar. Qtr.	7,197	5,234	2,225	1,499	1,909	663	92	n.a.	18,819
June ..	7,127	5,214	2,114	1,795	1,974	724	119	n.a.	19,067
1954-55—Sept. ..	6,889	6,025	2,097	1,653	2,466	706	88	52	19,976
Dec. ..	6,440	5,609	1,982	1,745	2,283	710	139	46	18,954
Mar. ..	5,918	5,447	1,770	1,799	1,791	796	202	66	17,789
June ..	6,255	5,593	1,935	1,993	2,035	655	211	85	18,762
1955-56—Sept. ..	6,849	5,529	1,950	2,348	1,919	586	222	88	19,491
Dec. ..	6,281	5,230	1,790	2,121	1,715	648	115	70	17,970
Mar. ..	5,671	5,584	1,692	2,001	1,417	592	111	71	r17,139

COMPLETED.									
Quarterly Average—									
1948-49	(a)4,466	3,570	2,338	997	811	572	81	n.a.	(a)12,835
1949-50	(a)4,692	3,902	2,362	1,226	877	713	101	n.a.	(a)13,873
1950-51	(a)4,943	5,290	2,569	1,680	1,290	979	144	n.a.	(a)16,895
1951-52	5,837	5,988	2,951	1,928	1,644	1,000	146	n.a.	19,494
1952-53	6,222	5,258	2,650	2,235	1,991	829	147	n.a.	19,332
1953-54	6,628	5,345	2,240	1,881	1,907	658	138	n.a.	18,797
1954-55	7,221	5,890	1,981	1,831	2,198	620	99	50	19,890
Quarterly Total—									
1953-54—Mar. Qtr.	6,048	4,776	2,034	1,682	1,621	562	98	n.a.	16,821
June ..	7,153	4,989	2,231	1,816	1,975	799	127	n.a.	19,090
1954-55—Sept. ..	7,295	5,818	1,766	1,951	1,970	559	108	43	19,510
Dec. ..	7,680	6,273	2,068	1,993	2,340	737	133	44	21,268
Mar. ..	6,418	5,449	1,998	1,600	1,874	558	67	32	17,996
June ..	7,489	6,020	2,093	1,779	2,608	626	90	80	20,785
1955-56—Sept. ..	7,000	5,593	1,981	1,903	1,951	579	132	76	19,215
Dec. ..	6,506	6,278	1,923	2,000	2,339	715	156	80	19,997
Mar. ..	5,991	5,218	1,668	1,837	1,684	704	149	76	r17,327

UNDER CONSTRUCTION AT END OF PERIOD.(b)

1948-49	23,113	17,521	3,958	3,940	2,439	2,575	696	n.a.	54,242
1949-50	26,402	21,553	4,520	5,241	3,957	3,357	678	n.a.	65,708
1950-51	31,793	27,341	4,943	6,529	5,764	3,558	981	n.a.	80,909
1951-52	32,806	26,896	5,135	7,395	6,917	3,143	708	n.a.	83,000
1952-53	28,946	22,053	3,918	6,464	5,951	2,114	646	n.a.	70,092
1953-54	30,828	21,581	3,470	5,750	5,932	2,149	449	n.a.	70,159
1954-55	27,448	20,692	3,329	5,602	5,715	2,536	691	211	66,224
1953-54—Mar. Qtr. ..	30,854	21,358	3,587	5,778	5,933	2,224	457	n.a.	70,191
June ..	30,828	21,581	3,470	5,750	5,932	2,149	449	n.a.	70,159
1954-55—Sept. ..	30,422	21,788	3,801	5,447	6,428	2,296	429	170	70,781
Dec. ..	29,182	21,124	3,715	5,198	6,371	2,269	435	172	68,466
Mar. ..	28,682	21,119	3,487	5,393	6,288	2,507	570	206	68,252
June ..	27,448	20,692	3,329	5,602	5,715	2,536	691	211	66,224
1955-56—Sept. ..	27,297	20,628	3,298	6,047	5,676	2,543	781	223	66,493
Dec. ..	27,072	19,580	3,165	6,165	5,052	2,476	740	213	64,463
Mar. ..	26,752	19,938	3,189	6,329	4,785	2,364	702	208	r64,267

(a) Partly estimated.

(b) Partly estimated for New South Wales and total.

For meaning of symbols n.a., r, —, see page 1.

PRODUCTION OF COAL, ENERGY AND METALS.

Period.	Black Coal.			Brown Coal.	Gold, (Mine Production). (a)	Heat, Light and Power.		Metals.				
	Under-ground.	Open Cut.	Total.			Gas made in Gas-works.	Total Electricity Generated.	Pig Iron.	Ingot Steel.	Zinc, Refined. (b)	Lead, Refined and Lead in Lead Bullion. (b)	Copper, Refined. (b)
	'000 tons.	'000 tons.	'000 tons.	'000 tons.	'000 fine oz.	Million cubic feet.	Million kWh.	'000 tons.	'000 tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Monthly Average—								(c)	(c)			
1936-37 ..	n.a.	n.a.	977	258	108.2	1,679	331	76.1	90.0	5,840	17,562	1,280
1937-38 ..	n.a.	n.a.	990	300	123.3	1,746	363	77.5	97.2	5,810	18,797	1,437
1938-39 ..	n.a.	n.a.	1,051	267	135.1	1,789	391	92.1	97.5	5,819	19,416	1,457
1948-49 ..	1,056	181	1,237	586	74.9	3,061	754	87.1	98.2	6,298	17,017	939
1949-50 ..	1,038	205	1,243	636	71.6	2,908	792	91.5	101.5	6,981	15,784	968
1950-51 ..	1,127	241	1,368	608	74.3	3,075	875	109.4	120.3	6,478	15,682	936
1951-52 ..	1,243	355	1,598	675	75.7	3,366	941	119.2	126.8	7,011	15,680	1,485
1952-53 ..	1,251	294	1,545	673	86.5	3,439	1,004	141.0	150.1	7,181	16,030	1,595
1953-54 ..	1,362	257	1,619	728	92.6	3,508	1,142	152.2	176.4	8,263	19,669	1,742
1954-55 p ..	1,393	220	1,613	806	90.0	3,610	1,275	155.5	184.1	8,372	19,613	2,533
Monthly Total—												
1953-54—												
May ..	1,448	273	1,721	817	93.9	3,830	1,255	147.8	184.5	8,954	19,523	1,685
June ..	1,472	249	1,721	838	95.6	4,018	1,290	145.6	176.0	8,650	19,763	1,782
1954-55 p—												
July ..	1,500	262	1,762	842	98.2	4,270	1,359	159.6	202.4	9,050	23,634	1,479
August ..	1,461	286	1,747	808	90.5	4,120	1,321	155.0	193.2	9,029	21,680	1,786
September ..	1,563	269	1,832	833	97.2	3,812	1,255	169.0	197.3	8,680	19,470	2,483
October ..	1,500	228	1,728	819	88.7	3,663	1,243	174.2	200.9	8,876	20,234	3,288
November ..	1,533	249	1,782	826	95.6	3,405	1,212	160.6	189.5	8,496	19,709	3,318
December ..	1,255	224	1,479	698	97.6	3,256	1,189	164.7	189.2	8,761	18,165	3,299
January ..	734	172	906	711	78.3	3,065	1,162	158.7	173.6	8,763	18,622	2,046
February ..	1,413	153	1,566	730	76.2	2,942	1,163	137.3	156.3	7,820	14,805	2,786
March ..	1,480	161	1,641	828	92.7	3,310	1,315	156.6	182.2	8,197	17,303	1,468
April ..	1,295	190	1,485	817	77.9	3,335	1,243	137.4	158.1	7,058	21,964	1,906
May ..	1,489	223	1,712	894	87.6	3,974	1,396	146.7	190.0	7,573	21,829	2,539
June ..	1,485	227	1,712	861	99.7	4,170	1,441	141.8	178.6	8,156	17,938	4,002
1955-56 p—												
July ..	1,570	207	1,777	898	89.1	4,480	1,508	157.7	195.8	8,742	17,697	4,419
August ..	1,653	253	1,906	926	80.6	4,276	1,478	145.3	197.7	8,942	21,218	3,657
September ..	1,574	223	1,797	904	87.4	3,825	1,383	136.7	189.1	8,753	20,722	2,826
October ..	1,494	198	1,692	889	88.5	3,697	1,376	147.7	190.2	8,971	20,057	2,331
November ..	1,541	189	1,730	869	93.6	3,498	1,365	162.1	192.2	8,820	17,310	2,334
December ..	1,226	127	1,353	785	97.4	3,344	1,309	166.1	192.7	8,985	15,433	1,988
January ..	760	96	856	813	82.1	3,095	1,272	169.3	197.5	8,685	20,991	1,936
February ..	1,290	148	1,438	787	77.7	2,986	1,308	163.2	192.7	8,025	17,342	2,578
March ..	1,312	172	1,484	839	78.7	3,239	1,398	172.2	202.3	8,527	17,616	3,035
April ..				838	76.0			167.3	187.6	8,373	17,158	2,605
May ..				928				180.3			17,732	3,383

(a) Gold content of minerals produced in Australia. (b) Source: Bureau of Mineral Resources and Australian Mines and Metals Association. (c) Monthly averages for twelve months ended May.

For meaning of symbols n.a., p, see page 1.

PRODUCTION OF BUILDING MATERIALS AND HOUSEHOLD APPLIANCES.

Period.	Building Materials.							Cooking Stoves.			Domestic Refrigerators.
	Clay Bricks.	Roofing Tiles.		Cement Building Sheets.	Sawn Native Timber. (a)	Portland Cement.	Fibrous Plaster Sheets.	Solid Fuel. (b)	Gas.(b)	Electric. (c)	
		Terra-cotta.	Cement.								
	Million.	'000.	'000.	'000 sq. yds. (d)	Million sup. ft.	'000 tons.	'000 sq. yds.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Monthly Average—											
1936-37 ..	53.1	2,630	326	522	53.6	60.0	567	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
1937-38 ..	57.4	3,023	430	678	62.2	71.0	619	4,562	3,481	749	1,257
1938-39 ..	60.0	3,307	374	791	59.8	72.3	634	4,538	3,894	730	2,458
1948-49 ..	51.4	3,680	2,358	1,547	98.7	86.0	1,103	5,120	4,130	3,494	12,134
1949-50 ..	50.3	3,785	3,387	1,529	101.9	97.3	1,105	5,155	3,892	2,865	13,528
1950-51 ..	57.4	3,918	4,230	1,771	105.1	102.9	1,265	6,251	4,613	3,733	16,994
1951-52 ..	60.0	4,072	5,540	1,944	116.0	103.1	1,373	5,975	4,251	4,240	16,066
1952-53 ..	55.6	4,831	3,338	2,022	111.6	119.9	1,285	3,994	2,978	1,883	15,179
1953-54 ..	66.8	5,315	3,721	2,174	116.5	141.7	1,349	4,198	3,587	3,098	22,874
1954-55 p..	69.5	5,283	4,376	2,312	118.5	160.2	1,448	4,209	4,904	3,933	23,274
Monthly Total—											
1953-54—											
April ..	66.0	5,161	3,522	1,906	113.6	144.0	1,366	3,902	2,868	3,452	18,247
May ..	70.2	5,699	3,915	2,480	119.2	171.7	1,461	4,808	4,009	3,888	17,819
June ..	73.9	5,804	4,149	2,408	122.1	168.3	1,482	5,104	4,470	4,202	20,723
1954-55 p—											
July ..	73.1	5,328	4,368	2,655	122.5	171.0	1,502	5,425	4,476	4,118	24,369
August ..	75.6	5,681	4,518	2,444	117.3	163.6	1,529	4,943	5,112	3,602	26,147
September ..	75.9	5,877	4,736	2,547	129.3	162.5	1,536	5,252	5,620	3,816	32,618
October..	72.9	5,532	4,420	2,621	126.0	169.1	1,504	4,609	5,457	3,735	33,145
November ..	75.4	5,578	4,924	2,336	131.1	171.9	1,563	4,601	5,357	3,719	34,368
December ..	60.9	4,785	4,114	2,089	120.6	153.3	1,248	3,525	4,595	3,841	30,959
January ..	49.5	3,717	3,260	1,611	90.2	142.5	1,068	2,465	2,976	2,532	19,827
February ..	67.3	5,450	4,295	2,370	112.6	136.9	1,473	3,739	4,645	4,217	22,170
March ..	73.7	5,449	4,892	2,341	119.9	160.8	1,586	3,961	5,352	4,751	18,394
April ..	64.5	5,120	4,108	2,145	98.8	152.3	1,380	3,516	4,643	4,053	10,290
May ..	74.0	5,505	4,424	2,210	122.9	169.8	1,517	4,199	5,400	4,485	13,207
June ..	71.5	5,370	4,453	2,379	131.5	168.3	1,469	4,279	5,215	4,329	13,794
1955-56 p—							(e)				
July ..	72.5	4,141	4,703	2,813	126.7	164.5	r 1,492	4,447	6,413	4,828	13,247
August ..	79.1	6,136	4,932	2,321	132.4	170.3	r 1,682	5,224	7,662	4,589	19,778
September ..	76.4	5,794	5,015	2,257	139.6	173.0	r 1,531	5,076	6,283	3,851	26,128
October..	75.2	6,224	4,795	2,621	127.4	175.3	r 1,531	3,891	5,542	3,544	33,080
November ..	77.8	6,151	4,972	2,484	134.9	190.9	r 1,620	4,051	5,370	4,302	34,814
December ..	60.4	4,580	3,936	1,895	135.9	155.4	r 1,179	2,878	3,452	3,121	27,669
January ..	52.5	3,837	3,838	1,341	91.9	135.4	r 1,047	2,479	2,982	2,842	19,928
February ..	66.9	5,482	4,947	2,236	111.7	152.4	r 1,482	3,790	3,639	4,238	18,611
March ..	67.2	5,143	5,012	2,176	105.3	171.4	r 1,403	3,294	2,857	3,576	17,196
April ..	65.3	5,072	4,676	2,298	96.6	168.6	1,356	3,272	2,831	3,165	11,515
May ..	70.3	5,936	4,848	2,485		181.8	1,523	4,095	2,896	4,173	12,714

(a) Includes sawn sleepers. (b) Household, commercial and industrial cooking stoves to 1947-48—thereafter household cooking stoves only. (c) Household, commercial and industrial cooking stoves, ranges, stovettes and cookers to 1944-45—thereafter household cooking stoves only. (d) In terms of '000 standard square yards to 1944-45, thereafter in terms of '000 selling square yards. A standard square yard contains a given volume of sheet; a selling square yard represents the area covered by the finished sheet regardless of its thickness or corrugation. (e) From July, 1955, represents total production in all establishments and includes small quantities not previously recorded in some States.

For meaning of symbols n.a., p, r, —, see page 1.

PRODUCTION OF TEXTILES AND CLOTHING.

Period	Cotton Textiles.		Pure Rayon Fabrics.	Wool Textiles.			Boots and Shoes (not Rubber).
	Cotton Yarn.	Cotton Woven Textiles (excl. Towels and Towelling).		Scoured and Carbonized Wool.	Yarn.	Woven Cloth.	
	'000 lb.	'000 sq. yds.	'000 sq. yds.	Million lb.	Million lb.	Million sq. yds.	'000 pairs.
Monthly Average—							
1936-37	730	n.a.	n.a.	8.4	2.14	2.04	1,208
1937-38	965	n.a.	n.a.	7.9	2.51	2.47	1,176
1938-39	974	n.a.	n.a.	8.8	2.71	2.65	1,164
1948-49	2,179	2,133	475.5	13.5	4.24	3.40	1,287
1949-50	2,519	2,398	548.5	14.4	4.09	3.11	1,284
1950-51	2,938	2,537	905.0	12.7	3.87	3.13	1,409
1951-52	2,872	2,617	905.4	10.1	3.04	2.44	1,400
1952-53	2,302	2,052	1,289.3	10.3	2.97	2.38	1,354
1953-54	3,175	2,802	1,685.9	11.6	3.76	2.72	1,506
1954-55 p	3,431	2,806	1,364.1	11.3	3.55	2.35	1,443
Monthly Total—							
1953-54—							
April	3,013	2,878	1,706.1	11.4	3.79	2.48	1,463
May	3,583	3,339	1,529.6	12.3	4.06	2.68	1,573
June	4,002	3,497	1,786.5	13.0	4.55	2.65	1,633
1954-55 p—							
July	3,811	3,094	1,764.2	11.8	3.73	2.33	1,511
August	3,628	2,954	1,480.6	11.6	3.76	2.53	1,572
September	3,878	3,101	1,302.7	10.6	3.95	2.70	1,574
October	3,462	2,931	1,306.9	11.4	3.75	2.52	1,497
November	3,618	3,016	1,354.1	12.1	3.84	2.70	1,567
December	3,045	2,402	1,108.5	10.0	3.02	2.06	1,263
January	2,406	1,989	799.9	8.5	2.39	1.76	836
February	3,398	2,636	1,271.4	10.6	3.43	2.42	1,391
March	3,901	3,007	1,405.9	12.6	3.95	2.55	1,591
April	2,880	2,460	1,348.4	10.4	3.26	1.97	1,329
May	3,446	2,993	1,698.4	12.4	3.69	2.29	1,579
June	3,699	3,091	1,528.5	13.4	3.98	2.31	1,609
1955-56 p—							
July	3,410	2,981	1,265.8	12.2	3.45	2.06	1,407
August	3,818	3,233	1,303.9	11.6	3.86	2.48	1,689
September	3,570	3,131	1,155.5	9.9	3.75	2.49	1,568
October	3,439	3,076	1,161.3	11.6	r3.58	2.26	1,478
November	3,525	3,120	1,348.1	13.0	4.00	2.52	1,562
December	2,520	2,294	1,030.9	11.1	2.83	1.67	1,133
January	2,413	2,474	1,005.3	9.9	2.39	1.80	931
February	3,641	3,265	1,385.6	12.1	3.97	2.58	1,466
March	3,299	3,208	1,351.5	12.5	4.04	2.56	1,537
April	3,184	3,300	1,526.2	11.5	r3.54	2.13	1,388
May	3,724	3,931	1,499.8	14.2	4.45	2.77	1,699

For meaning of symbols n.a., p, r, see page 1.

PRODUCTION OF TEXTILES AND CLOTHING—continued.

Period.	Hosiery.			Underwear.(b)		Shirts, Men's and Boys'.
	Men's and Boys'.	Women's, Maids' and Girls'.	Infants' and Babies'.(a)	Men's, Youths, and Boys'.	Women's, Maids' and Girls'.	
	'000 doz. pairs.	'000 doz. pairs.	'000 doz. pairs.	'000 doz.	'000 doz.	'000 doz.
Monthly Average—						
1936-37	83.1	157.1	49.1	191.8		(c) 60.6
1937-38	86.7	183.7	52.0	227.6		(c) 69.9
1938-39	91.9	178.0	51.0	229.2		(c) 56.2
1948-49	106.3	128.0	58.8	264.0		(c) 71.3
1949-50	99.3	142.4	54.7	294.2		(c) 73.7
1950-51	128.0	154.8	46.9	107.7	201.9	89.5
1951-52	121.8	155.6	38.9	105.6	196.6	96.5
1952-53	131.2	194.8	35.5	92.9	175.2	71.5
1953-54	157.9	232.8	47.5	120.8	224.4	103.3
1954-55 p	140.4	254.4	35.1	117.9	227.3	118.1
Monthly Total—						
1953-54—						
April	139.9	235.6	45.7	119.2	209.4	92.7
May.. ..	149.0	257.5	50.9	129.3	224.3	102.9
June.. ..	160.3	263.2	51.0	125.7	239.0	112.2
1954-55 p—						
July	150.4	275.7	48.7	124.9	256.3	133.5
August	157.3	269.3	49.6	121.3	244.8	146.8
September	165.5	291.2	35.8	136.0	277.3	163.9
October	157.4	265.3	43.4	109.4	240.4	159.0
November	165.2	282.8	32.9	131.2	257.3	164.4
December	137.4	226.7	28.6	113.2	223.9	116.3
January	89.1	160.4	16.3	74.9	141.8	52.6
February	127.0	242.0	38.8	116.0	218.8	89.1
March	155.8	269.4	43.2	133.3	236.0	102.3
April	108.8	243.3	26.0	107.4	185.5	77.2
May	128.3	268.0	29.3	124.5	227.5	98.8
June.. ..	142.5	258.9	28.2	123.6	217.4	112.5
1955-56 p—						
July	131.9	240.8	24.3	r126.9	r226.7	r123.5
August	144.8	255.5	29.1	r153.1	r241.0	148.7
September	130.5	272.2	26.3	r140.5	r234.2	141.5
October	133.6	259.1	27.7	r140.0	r248.4	132.7
November	153.8	291.8	29.0	r158.3	r280.0	140.7
December	105.5	210.6	20.2	r102.7	r197.0	105.1
January	88.3	153.3	16.6	r78.1	r146.0	44.8
February	139.3	252.8	27.1	r141.6	r243.0	r84.7
March	r131.4	r262.7	r26.4	r139.6	r231.1	83.2
April	122.7	233.8	23.1	120.9	211.6	80.6
May	152.0	285.0	21.6	147.0	252.6	107.7

(a) Collected as children's prior to 1951-52.

(b) Total made including that knitted or made of knitted or woven fabric.

(c) Excludes knitted.

For meaning of symbols p, r, —, see page 1.

PRODUCTION OF FOOD AND DRINK.

Period.	Wheaten Flour.	Refined Sugar.	Whole Milk for All Purposes.	Dairy Products (Factory Production).			Meat (Bone-in Weight).(a)					Beer.
				Butter.	Cheese.	Processed Full Cream Milk Products.	Beef (including Veal).	Mutton.	Lamb.	Total Pigmeats (as Pork).	Total. (b)	
	'000 short tons.	'000 tons.	Million gals.	Tons.	Tons.	'000 gals.(c)	'000 tons.	'000 tons.	'000 tons.	'000 tons.	'000 tons.	'000 gals.
Monthly Average—												
1936-37	102.4	27.0	89.9	13,908	1,636	n.a.	45.9	16.0	10.0	7.7	79.6	6,261
1937-38	104.2	28.9	96.4	15,242	2,018	n.a.	49.7	17.2	9.9	7.2	84.0	7,084
1938-39	114.4	28.2	99.2	16,232	2,415	2,781	46.6	17.1	9.6	7.2	80.5	7,523
1948-49	139.9	35.7	100.7	13,424	3,596	7,304	48.1	15.1	11.6	7.8	82.6	12,171
1949-50	125.8	35.2	103.2	14,037	3,731	7,464	50.5	17.2	12.7	7.5	87.9	13,009
1950-51	141.3	37.6	99.8	13,303	3,692	7,069	54.3	13.5	9.4	7.1	84.3	14,397
1951-52	143.4	41.1	87.3	10,931	3,382	6,360	48.5	14.7	8.9	7.1	79.2	15,398
1952-53	143.9	36.7	101.3	13,632	3,883	6,951	56.2	20.8	12.2	6.9	96.1	16,446
1953-54	134.1	37.4	99.1	13,010	4,087	6,314	58.7	19.8	10.6	7.0	96.1	17,380
1954-55p	128.2	39.9	109.8	15,683	3,758	5,065	59.5	19.4	12.2	8.1	99.2	19,066
Monthly Total—												
1953-54—												
May ..	147.4	39.0	66.2	7,646	1,661	3,041	68.4	18.0	8.3	6.9	101.6	16,382
June ..	130.5	33.9	59.2	6,291	1,719	2,464	75.6	18.4	9.1	7.2	110.3	14,825
1954-55p—												
July ..	124.7	37.1	64.4	6,923	2,426	3,169	75.2	16.3	9.0	7.8	108.3	15,076
Aug. ..	121.3	42.9	87.1	10,913	3,748	4,592	63.4	16.6	10.9	7.6	98.5	16,536
Sept. ..	112.2	42.5	117.2	16,304	5,411	6,585	61.2	18.5	15.6	7.8	103.1	19,074
Oct. ..	113.6	44.6	147.5	21,842	6,643	7,986	59.3	20.9	22.9	7.2	110.3	20,313
Nov. ..	120.9	43.6	162.4	25,038	6,645	8,288	57.4	21.5	19.1	9.2	107.2	20,787
Dec. ..	136.4	43.7	159.1	24,739	5,897	7,682	56.4	21.3	15.6	11.0	104.3	22,139
Jan. ..	131.4	40.0	130.5	19,700	4,087	6,209	46.0	21.3	9.7	6.9	83.9	20,657
Feb. ..	134.6	36.8	110.9	16,612	2,724	4,638	49.1	21.1	8.9	7.4	86.5	20,383
Mar. ..	151.4	37.7	111.3	16,672	2,451	4,017	58.0	21.5	9.2	8.4	97.1	21,541
Apr. ..	128.6	33.5	88.2	12,368	1,813	2,835	52.7	17.7	8.4	8.0	86.8	18,816
May ..	142.6	40.4	73.9	9,445	1,586	2,451	62.1	18.1	8.6	8.2	97.0	17,216
June ..	120.8	36.2	65.2	7,636	1,661	2,324	73.5	18.3	8.7	7.9	108.4	16,257
1955-56p—												
July ..	125.2	37.5	71.8	8,479	2,174	3,252	68.0	16.1	7.7	6.7	98.5	16,038
Aug. ..	119.4	40.9	98.1	13,280	3,166	5,253	70.3	17.1	8.7	7.7	103.8	18,289
Sept. ..	114.4	42.9	125.2	18,203	4,380	7,339	71.1	19.3	13.6	7.5	111.5	20,164
Oct. ..	129.7	44.9	158.1	24,318	5,363	8,958	67.5	21.1	22.6	7.3	118.5	21,947
Nov. ..	138.8	44.3	166.8	26,173	5,253	9,578	67.0	22.9	21.5	9.2	120.6	23,259
Dec. ..	135.6	40.3	160.2	25,284	4,568	8,664	60.5	23.4	17.3	10.8	112.0	23,958
Jan. ..	119.9	42.4	151.1	23,925	3,684	7,805	50.0	21.7	10.2	6.6	88.5	20,498
Feb. ..	108.6	40.5	128.0	20,041	2,487	5,787	52.2	20.3	9.1	7.0	88.6	21,120
Mar. ..	128.1	41.6	109.3	15,890	2,295	5,200	53.5	18.4	9.2	7.6	88.7	20,943
Apr. ..	131.3	37.6	90.1	12,332	1,842	4,028	52.8	17.3	8.1	7.3	85.5	16,966
May ..	147.6	43.3	77.6	9,846	1,653	3,578						15,605

(a) Includes monthly estimates of production in Northern Territory and Australian Capital Territory.

(b) In terms of fresh meat.

(c) Whole milk equivalent.

For meaning of symbols n.a., p, see page 1.

PRODUCTION OF MISCELLANEOUS PRODUCTS.

Period.	Tobacco, Cigars and Cigarettes. (a)	Chemicals and Allied Products.					Motor Bodies.			Pneumatic Tyres— Motor Cycle, Car, Truck, Aero, &c.
		Sulphuric Acid (100%).	Super- phosphate.	Paints.			Sedans and Coupes.	Tourers and Roadsters.	Utilities.	
				Ready- Mixed Paint.	Lacquers, Nitro- Cellulose.	Enamels, Natural and Synthetic.				
	'000 lb.	'000 tons.	'000 tons.	'000 gals.	'000 gals.	'000 gals.	No.	No.	No.	'000.
Monthly Average—										
1936-37	1,805	36.4	90.9	161	n.a.	n.a.	3,660	478	610	n.a.
1937-38	1,904	41.3	102.8	170	60	39	4,032	804	518	n.a.
1938-39	1,939	40.8	100.0	176	48	48	3,426	816	715	n.a.
1948-49	2,427	48.8	118.6	308	69	143	2,131	487	799	143
1949-50	2,558	51.0	123.6	330	78	186	2,347	333	1,174	164
1950-51	2,652	53.3	129.0	466	96	157	3,036	387	1,853	187
1951-52	2,795	54.2	133.1	459	99	174	3,486	390	1,865	213
1952-53	3,029	52.3	137.1	358	84	176	4,173		1,749	141
1953-54	3,487	61.0	147.6	432	109	225	5,514		2,086	241
1954-55 p ..	3,652	68.9	163.7	521	123	302	6,002		2,238	291
Monthly Total—										
1953-54—										
April	2,867	63.8	146.8	452	112	214	5,609		1,922	247
May	3,834	65.1	161.3	470	122	235	6,383		2,153	276
June	3,396	72.7	175.7	453	114	235	6,784		2,541	274
1954-55 p—										
July	3,402	65.2	150.0	453	125	288	6,703		2,602	303
August	3,318	64.4	143.2	442	127	308	6,492		2,647	288
September ..	3,467	62.1	155.7	486	126	350	6,541		2,632	315
October	3,713	59.6	127.3	514	125	330	5,592		2,417	293
November ..	4,079	62.7	141.2	561	140	323	5,886		2,414	312
December ..	3,831	70.3	160.3	482	103	285	4,888		2,225	228
January	3,075	69.4	179.6	532	90	218	3,184		1,165	199
February	3,826	64.9	154.7	548	124	271	5,931		2,072	289
March	3,958	79.8	203.2	617	139	333	7,135		2,476	326
April	3,392	74.7	172.5	532	114	276	5,710		1,903	279
May	4,055	76.5	177.9	587	137	312	6,799		2,314	328
June	3,713	77.4	195.1	500	129	330	7,157		2,004	326
1955-56 p—										
July	3,692	65.1	146.3	r469	112	288	7,316		2,035	320
August	3,992	64.5	149.6	r556	137	365	7,968		2,364	350
September ..	3,795	78.7	181.9	592	131	385	7,529		2,373	336
October	3,748	75.7	168.9	r570	134	412	7,013		2,203	309
November ..	4,090	80.1	198.3	r640	140	396	7,726		2,473	332
December ..	3,752	80.4	179.1	532	108	333	6,538		1,920	245
January	3,474	76.1	189.2	r420	93	273	4,391		998	204
February	3,851	80.6	211.5	r489	128	r308	7,125		2,187	296
March	3,978	78.1	187.8	r608	130	330	7,510		2,036	282
April	3,810	76.7	176.4	562	122	311	6,031		1,794	280
May	3,844	71.4	178.0	639	137	389	7,589		2,215	339

(a) Details for 1952-53 and earlier periods refer to Australian factory production; 1953-54 and later figures to quantity on which excise duty was paid.

For meaning of symbols n.a., p, r, see page 1.

INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION INDEXES : VARIOUS COUNTRIES.

Unless otherwise stated, the indexes shown below include mining, manufacturing, electricity and manufactured gas, but exclude construction. When the indexes are adjusted for differences in the number of working days per month or for seasonal variations they are footnoted accordingly.

Source : *Monthly Bulletin of Statistics* of the Statistical Office of the United Nations.

(Base : 1953 = 100.)

Period.	Belgium. (a)	Canada. (b)	Denmark. (b)	France. (b)	Italy.	Japan.	Nether- lands.	Norway. (b)	Sweden. (b)	United King- dom. (c)	U.S.A. (b) (d)
1949 ..	88	80	88	87	68	48	78	77	94	88	72
1950 ..	89	85	98	87	79	55	88	87	97	94	84
1951 ..	102	91	100	99	90	74	91	94	101	97	90
1952 ..	100	94	96	103	91	82	91	95	99	94	93
1953 ..	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
1954 ..	106	98	109	109	109	108	111	109	104	107	93
1955 ..	116	107	111	120	118	117	119	113	110	r113	104
1954—											
April ..	109	97	108	111	111	108	108	99	110	103	92
May ..	109	98	110	114	110	105	110	103	110	110	92
June ..	109	102	111	112	104	105	114	108	111	106	92
July ..	98	96	75	105	117	104	109	74	56	97	87
August ..	107	99	111	86	93	102	108	104	103	93	92
September..	111	102	118	111	115	105	116	115	110	110	93
October ..	112	103	116	113	117	110	117	116	112	115	97
November..	112	102	118	118	112	109	120	118	115	116	97
December..	113	97	111	119	115	112	122	109	113	108	96
1955—											
January ..	112	96	110	118	109	99	107	110	111	112	99
February ..	113	100	115	120	107	105	104	129	113	116	101
March ..	113	101	116	123	122	115	123	124	114	118	103
April ..	r116	104	113	121	114	112	115	104	119	111	103
May ..	116	108	114	123	123	113	115	109	116	116	103
June ..	117	111	112	125	118	114	127	119	116	113	104
July ..	104	106	75	113	124	116	117	78	61	101	97
August ..	114	109	113	94	103	117	117	108	106	98	104
September..	120	113	119	119	124	120	124	121	116	116	106
October ..	116	114	117	123	125	121	125	120	117	120	110
November..	124	114	118	131	120	123	126	123	122	121	108
December	127	r106	110	127	122	128	124	112	116	114	106
1956—											
January ..	121	104	109	r130	r119	118	r117	123	114	r115	107
February ..	115	107	111	r128	114	r123	r111	141	r112	117	107
March ..	122	112	107	134	129	129	127	115	118	116	107
April ..			100	135		131	120	116			107

(a) Adjusted for seasonal variations and for number of working days.
(c) Partially adjusted for number of working days. Includes construction.

(b) Adjusted for number of working days.
(d) Excludes electricity and manufactured gas.

For meaning of symbol r, see page 1.

MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS.

(Includes Commonwealth-owned vehicles other than those of Departments of Army and Air.)

Period.	Motor Vehicles on Register at end of period.			New Motor Vehicles Registered during period.		
	Motor Cars.(a)	Commercial Vehicles, &c.(a)	Motor Cycles.	Motor Cars. (a)	Commercial Vehicles, &c.(a)	Motor Cycles.
	'000.	'000.	'000.			
Monthly Averages.						
1936-37(b)	499	214	78	(c)4,049	(c)(d)2,016	(c) 623
1937-38(b)	535	242	80	(c)4,594	(c)(d)2,283	(c) 694
1938-39	562	258	79	(c)4,509	(c)(d)2,077	(c) 614
1947-48(c)	592	412	100	3,562	(d)2,397	1,192
1948-49(c)	655	450	117	5,539	(d)3,056	1,852
1949-50(c)	768	490	134	9,584	(d)4,829	2,232
1950-51(c)	882	548	145	10,671	6,461	2,263
1951-52(c)	1,031	581	154	10,480	6,085	1,846
1952-53(c)	1,108	579	148	7,773	4,337	941
1953-54	1,200	607	140	10,466	4,783	905
1954-55	1,347	650	133	13,900	5,598	941
Monthly Totals.						
1953-54—						
May	1,190	603	141	11,688	5,200	892
June	1,200	607	140	12,485	5,273	740
1954-55—						
July	1,211	608	139	13,421	5,697	847
August	1,225	613	139	(e) 15,928	(e) 5,993	(e) 848
September	1,237	617	138	(e) 13,819	(e) 6,220	(e) 949
October	1,251	622	137	(e) 13,596	(e) 5,765	(e) 953
November	1,268	629	138	(e) 13,572	(e) 6,134	(e) 890
December	1,284	635	138	(e) 13,425	(e) 5,705	(e) 1,151
January	1,284	631	136	(e) 8,157	(e) 3,817	(e) 834
February	1,295	636	136	(e) 12,772	(e) 4,749	(e) 964
March	1,306	639	135	(e) 15,791	(e) 5,851	(e) 1,117
April	1,317	640	134	(e) 13,539	(e) 4,867	(e) 912
May	1,335	647	134	(e) 16,176	(e) 6,184	(e) 1,034
June	1,347	650	133	(e) 16,525	(e) 6,192	(e) 787
1955-56—				(e)	(e)	(e)
July	1,356	652	132	15,195	6,009	789
August	1,370	655	131	16,843	6,191	890
September	1,383	656	130	15,991	6,563	936
October	1,392	657	130	15,010	6,564	910
November	1,409	663	130	14,897	5,994	1,007
December	1,420	666	129	14,413	5,850	1,004
January	1,428	660	128	9,887	4,563	866
February	1,440	670	128	r12,343	5,325	881
March	1,452	674	128	r14,202	r5,631	r978
April p				11,500	5,450	760
May p				12,400	6,050	860

(a) Registration in Victoria is according to purpose of use and not type of vehicle : consequently motor car registrations are overstated by the inclusion of commercial vehicles, registered for private use. Prior to 12th November, 1951, primary producers' private cars registered in Victoria were included in commercial vehicle registrations. (b) Excludes extra-Metropolitan area of Western Australia. (c) Excludes Northern Territory. (d) Includes taxis and hire cars in Victoria. (e) Includes some new registrations effected in preceding months but not passed into central registration records until subsequent months.

For meaning of symbols p, r, see page 1

GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS : OPERATIONS AND REVENUE.

Period.	Revenue Train-Miles.	Goods and Livestock.(a)		Passenger Journeys.	Revenue.	
		Tons Carried.	Net Ton- miles.(b)		Gross.	Net.
	'000.	'000.	Million.	'000.	£'000.	£'000.
Monthly Average—						
1936-37	6,088	2,678	330.7	31,469	3,517	910
1937-38	6,418	2,952	360.1	32,078	3,705	852
1938-39	6,463	2,737	338.8	32,070	3,662	666
1947-48	7,310	3,305	494.5	42,564	6,380	443
1948-49	7,690	3,428	517.7	42,225	7,165	85
1949-50	7,785	3,362	516.9	42,054	7,683	-205
1950-51	7,390	3,392	523.1	39,674	8,804	-594
1951-52	7,780	3,672	562.9	41,707	11,626	-721
1952-53	7,394	3,644	547.8	41,468	12,903	-560
1953-54	7,789	3,880	579.4	42,557	14,155	140
1954-55	7,911	3,951	608.0	43,071	14,498	124
Monthly Total—						
1953-54—					(c)	(c)
January	7,458	3,573	513.7	40,466	13,599	862
February	6,533	3,470	481.2	42,745	12,233	-716
March	8,289	4,078	597.0	46,239	14,764	1,039
April	7,463	3,611	558.8	41,845	13,772	344
May	8,274	3,968	635.2	45,559	14,686	-181
June	7,932	3,987	607.2	41,895	15,922	-1,769
1954-55—						
July	8,073	4,207	631.9	41,967	14,456	732
August	7,948	4,159	619.3	44,603	15,123	1,362
September	8,082	4,260	639.5	43,017	15,375	1,442
October	8,287	4,178	665.4	42,696	15,304	1,174
November	8,176	4,343	681.4	44,244	15,856	1,228
December	8,045	4,143	616.9	41,120	15,786	1,179
January	7,476	3,339	531.2	40,885	13,082	-40
February	7,253	3,503	539.9	44,395	12,947	-460
March	7,606	3,910	563.5	42,811	13,725	-292
April	7,759	3,537	575.3	41,878	13,704	-761
May	8,141	4,011	633.9	46,449	14,762	-860
June	8,083	3,827	597.2	42,791	14,134	-2,073
1955-56 p—						
July	8,155	4,125	630.2	43,104	14,215	-92
August	8,371	4,350	635.4	44,990	15,418	+161
September	8,229	4,238	635.4	43,198	15,514	+780
October	8,249	4,129	627.9	45,489	15,259	+180
November	8,007	4,251	635.7	40,916	15,535	-41
December	8,031	3,736	573.7	39,862	14,275	-992
January	7,792	3,187	521.9	42,273	13,572	-551

(a) Excludes South Brisbane-Border section of Uniform Gauge Railway. (b) From 1946-47 figures are partly estimated.
(c) Calculated from monthly returns of revenue and expenditure and not strictly comparable with annual figures above as monthly details exclude certain items of revenue and expenditure which are only allocated on an annual basis.

NOTE.—Minus sign (—) denotes loss.

For meaning of symbols p, —, see page 1.

SHIPPING CARGOES.

'000 TONS WEIGHT.

(Excluding all cargo shipped by ton measurement.)(a).

Period.	Oversea Cargo.		Interstate Cargo Shipped from—						
	Shipped from Australian Ports.	Discharged at Australian Ports.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia. (b)
Monthly Average—									
1936-37.. ..	419	304	228	71	30	163	3	47	542
1937-38.. ..	478	364	247	73	24	186	3	53	586
1938-39.. ..	428	350	228	72	27	219	5	51	602
1948-49.. ..	452	488	257	41	32	152	5	32	519
1949-50.. ..	422	641	233	37	30	198	5	32	535
1950-51.. ..	450	757	232	37	36	222	5	28	560
1951-52.. ..	374	810	280	37	45	238	11	29	641
1952-53.. ..	504	644	285	34	53	247	52	33	704
1953-54.. ..	479	711	307	39	36	287	54	35	758
1954-55.. ..	507	916	302	74	43	318	73	41	851
Monthly Total—									
1953-54—									
April	394	731	274	54	34	305	37	22	727
May	454	779	301	63	55	327	36	50	832
June	451	817	300	83	38	298	72	35	827
1954-55—									
July	565	892	333	56	52	346	108	50	945
August	443	857	307	62	48	359	86	39	901
September ..	466	750	308	77	56	230	80	47	799
October	558	836	330	90	49	335	54	46	904
November(c) ..	319	799	182	43	29	318	34	24	630
December	651	873	314	86	74	266	51	23	815
January	500	831	274	91	45	361	42	50	863
February	466	935	269	78	54	318	24	55	798
March	640	1,015	302	48	19	327	99	39	835
April	506	1,073	306	68	51	290	67	35	818
May	486	1,058	335	77	28	352	115	42	949
June	483	1,073	369	107	13	309	114	43	955
1955-56 p—									
July	462	882	405	114	64	326	116	56	1,081
August	496	1,060	321	120	42	334	135	49	1,001
September	450	981	307	88	54	364	204	51	1,068
October	460	971	291	98	58	340	123	33	943
November	508	1,085	292	115	39	287	143	41	917
December	560	1,105	243	110	57	253	163	22	848
January	463	930	193	84	17	329	174	30	827
February	409	913	191	81	21	258	105	17	673
March	674	1,130	286	69	42	321	113	41	873
April	602	960	301	103	13	316	106	47	886

(a) Additional to figures for Tons Measurement on page 44.
ports 2nd-16th November (approx.).

(b) Includes Northern Territory.

(c) Strike in all main

For meaning of symbol p, see page 1.

SHIPPING CARGOES.

'000 TONS OF 40 CUBIC FEET MEASUREMENT.
(Excluding all cargo shipped by ton weight.)(a)

Period.	Oversea Cargo.		Interstate Cargo Shipped from—						
	Shipped from Australian Ports.	Discharged at Australian Ports.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia. (b)
Monthly Average—									
1936-37.. ..	78	169	56	22	9	20	5	21	133
1937-38.. ..	91	190	59	28	13	26	5	25	156
1938-39.. ..	91	183	56	21	13	22	5	27	144
1948-49.. ..	114	214	29	19	10	16	6	18	98
1949-50.. ..	116	298	25	21	11	17	7	20	101
1950-51.. ..	108	333	27	20	10	20	6	27	110
1951-52.. ..	103	391	32	25	9	17	6	21	110
1952-53.. ..	121	161	31	22	8	17	9	19	106
1953-54.. ..	113	234	36	35	10	19	8	20	128
1954-55.. ..	118	284	34	35	10	16	8	20	123
Monthly Total—									
1953-54—									
April	160	202	40	42	12	11	7	40	152
May	158	288	36	34	11	23	9	25	138
June	106	270	33	37	8	17	9	23	127
1954-55—									
July	112	272	43	42	12	26	7	17	147
August	103	258	40	34	11	20	9	19	133
September ..	121	270	37	36	14	17	10	25	139
October	101	265	30	43	11	16	6	14	120
November(c) ..	67	235	16	20	6	12	8	12	74
December	126	265	43	42	9	16	6	28	144
January	90	370	30	23	5	12	7	23	100
February	78	259	31	34	11	11	8	13	108
March	141	330	33	42	10	17	6	21	129
April	130	267	32	31	9	15	9	28	124
May	206	310	28	38	9	14	10	21	120
June	145	302	36	38	9	17	13	21	134
1955-56 p—									
July	127	316	31	50	11	16	9	36	154
August	130	324	25	32	9	16	6	32	120
September ..	123	289	34	36	13	16	12	37	148
October	133	324	24	38	11	14	6	23	116
November	110	322	27	39	17	16	12	28	139
December	104	316	22	32	3	14	8	18	97
January	65	213	15	20	4	5	5	14	63
February	43	269	12	9	4	4	4	31	64
March	157	292	26	27	5	18	11	15	102
April	174	259	24	27	9	8	2	26	96

(a) Additional to figures for Tons Weight on page 43.
November (approx.).

(b) Includes Northern Territory.

(c) Strike in all ports 2nd-16th

For meaning of symbol p, see page 1.

POST OFFICE ACTIVITY.

Period.	Receipts of P.M.G.'s Department.(a)	Broadcast Listeners' Licences in force at end of period.	Telephone Services connected at end of period.	
			Lines.	Instruments.
	£'000.	'000.	'000.	'000.
Monthly Average.				
1936-37	1,318	938	440	595
1937-38	1,396	1,056	465	630
1938-39	1,447	1,130	488	662
1948-49	2,776	1,919	734	1,028
1949-50	3,196	2,030	793	1,110
1950-51	3,732	(b)2,110	864	1,209
1951-52	4,948	1,961	927	1,301
1952-53	5,371	1,986	985	1,384
1953-54	5,650	2,042	1,050	1,476
1954-55	6,069	2,035	1,127	1,587
Monthly Total.				
1953-54—				
May	5,778	2,031	1,044	1,467
June	6,105	2,042	1,050	1,476
1954-55—				
July	5,657	2,027	1,055	1,484
August	5,558	2,029	1,062	1,494
September	5,903	2,030	1,068	1,504
October	5,929	2,047	1,075	1,513
November	6,391	2,053	1,081	1,522
December	7,038	2,044	1,088	1,531
January	5,160	2,039	1,095	1,540
February	5,927	2,047	1,101	1,548
March	6,619	2,031	1,107	1,558
April	5,769	2,028	1,113	1,566
May	6,231	2,039	1,120	1,576
June	6,637	2,035	1,127	1,587
1955-56—				
July	5,921	2,036	1,135	1,598
August	6,509	2,045	1,143	1,610
September	6,493	2,051	1,151	1,622
October	6,766	2,051	1,159	1,634
November	6,437	2,050	1,166	1,643
December	7,142	2,055	1,173	1,653
January	6,097	2,065	1,179	1,662
February	6,285	2,069	1,185	1,671
March	6,803	2,068	1,190	1,679
April	6,116	2,075	1,195	1,685
May	7,352	2,081	1,201	1,695

(a) Actual collections.
of one are included.

(b) During the period July, 1942, to December, 1951, supplementary licences for receivers in excess

For meaning of symbol —, see page 1.

PRIVATE TRADING BANKS.(a)
LIABILITIES AND ASSETS WITHIN AUSTRALIA.
 (£ million.)

Period	Deposits.(b)			Advances.	Govern- ment and Municipal Securities. (c)	Special Accounts with Com- monwealth Bank.	Coin, Bullion, Notes and Cash with Common- wealth Bank.	Treasury Bills.
	Bearing Interest.	Not Bearing Interest.	Total.					
Average of Weekly Figures—								
1936-37.. ..	184.7	112.9	297.6	262.5	15.0	..	34.2	24.5
1937-38.. ..	194.8	120.0	314.8	274.4	21.4	..	37.1	20.7
1938-39.. ..	198.8	118.9	317.7	288.1	20.5	..	33.6	21.5
1948-49.. ..	211.3	565.1	776.4	(d)368.6	61.5	322.7	48.0	22.1
1949-50.. ..	224.5	685.6	910.1	403.9	83.8	377.0	52.0	26.5
1950-51.. ..	247.7	896.5	1,144.2	479.3	90.2	500.3	59.3	36.9
1951-52.. ..	238.2	963.5	1,201.7	621.4	68.4	466.0	60.6	32.4
1952-53.. ..	218.7	943.7	1,162.4	638.1	86.5	211.7	74.7	123.1
1953-54.. ..	239.8	1,035.7	1,275.5	658.5	130.3	285.2	71.2	99.4
1954-55.. ..	263.0	1,047.7	1,310.7	776.8	121.9	269.1	66.9	51.6
1953-54—								
May	247.7	1,075.6	1,323.3	695.4	136.0	318.8	75.4	67.1
June	251.3	1,053.7	1,305.0	701.7	133.4	313.8	67.7	58.0
1954-55—								
July	254.3	1,017.4	1,271.7	724.9	123.6	308.4	65.7	33.7
August	252.9	1,003.8	1,256.7	738.8	120.3	291.9	65.4	32.4
September ..	259.9	1,000.4	1,260.3	757.1	117.3	287.8	65.0	22.8
October	264.3	1,021.6	1,285.9	780.1	116.1	272.3	65.0	35.4
November ..	264.1	1,035.2	1,299.3	786.2	114.8	269.1	67.7	41.1
December (e) ..	261.1	1,056.6	1,317.7	785.7	114.3	259.6	69.7	47.1
January	264.9	1,069.9	1,334.8	769.8	116.4	259.6	83.7	74.7
February	267.2	1,089.0	1,356.2	772.9	124.6	259.6	71.7	96.5
March (f)	267.2	1,097.1	1,364.3	775.9	132.5	259.6	65.8	95.5
April	262.6	1,082.7	1,345.3	795.8	130.4	259.6	59.2	65.9
May	268.8	1,059.9	1,328.7	811.4	126.0	259.6	59.6	48.6
June	267.2	1,040.0	1,307.2	817.7	124.6	245.8	65.4	27.8
1955-56—								
July	267.9	1,012.9	1,280.8	829.9	113.9	238.8	69.2	18.8
August	264.3	999.9	1,264.2	820.4	110.4	231.9	67.0	22.0
September ..	260.9	996.8	1,257.7	823.1	106.2	231.9	65.4	23.6
October	264.0	1,013.1	1,277.1	831.4	106.8	231.9	64.1	27.5
November ..	261.8	1,034.0	1,295.8	823.3	110.3	231.9	65.1	31.9
December (g) ..	259.3	1,062.2	1,321.5	814.5	110.4	231.9	71.4	45.0
January	261.3	1,070.5	1,331.8	784.2	113.4	231.9	76.4	92.8
February	259.7	1,072.2	1,331.9	773.7	117.2	247.4	66.9	111.6
March	259.4	1,075.0	1,334.4	776.2	119.0	263.9	65.7	91.6
April	262.8	1,058.7	1,321.5	786.8	119.0	257.3	60.5	62.1
May	265.9	1,011.9	1,277.8	798.4	119.0	238.7	66.8	41.5

(a) Previously Nine Trading Banks. Now includes Australia and New Zealand Bank Ltd., The Bank of Adelaide, The Bank of New South Wales, The Commercial Bank of Australia Ltd., The Commercial Banking Company of Sydney Ltd., The English, Scottish and Australian Bank Ltd., The National Bank of Australasia Ltd., The Queensland National Bank Ltd. (in vol. liq.) and from March, 1955, The Ballarat Banking Co. Ltd. (in vol. liq.). Averages of liabilities and assets on Mondays in period until December, 1946; thereafter averages of liabilities and assets on Wednesdays. (b) Excludes inscribed stock. (c) Excludes Treasury Bills. (d) Figures for 1945-46 and onwards are not strictly comparable with those for previous periods owing to exclusion from advances of bills receivable and minor miscellaneous assets. (e) Banks were exempted from furnishing a return for fifth Wednesday. (f) The Ballarat Banking Co. Ltd. (in vol. liq.) included from March, 1955. (g) Banks were exempted from furnishing a return for fourth Wednesday.

For meaning of symbols .., —, see page 1.

PRIVATE TRADING BANKS(a)—continued.

RATIOS OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES TO TOTAL DEPOSITS (b) WITHIN AUSTRALIA. (Per Cent.)

Period.			Percentages of Various Categories of Assets to Total Deposits.					Percentage Non-interest bearing to Total Deposits.
			Cash in Australia.	Cash + Treasury Bills.	Advances.	Advances + Government and Municipal Securities in Australia.(c)	Special Accounts with Commonwealth Bank.	
Average	of	Weekly						
Figures—								
1936-37	11.49	19.73	88.20	93.26	..	37.93
1937-38	11.79	18.37	87.15	93.95	..	38.13
1938-39	10.58	17.36	90.70	97.15	..	37.42
1948-49	6.18	9.03	(d)47.47	(d)55.39	41.56	72.79
1949-50	5.71	8.62	44.35	53.55	41.40	75.28
1950-51	5.19	8.41	41.89	49.69	43.73	78.35
1951-52	5.04	7.74	51.71	57.40	38.78	80.18
1952-53	6.43	17.02	54.89	62.33	18.21	81.19
1953-54	5.59	13.38	51.63	61.85	22.36	81.20
1954-55	5.10	9.04	59.26	68.56	20.53	79.93
1953-54—								
May	5.70	10.77	52.55	62.83	24.09	81.28
June	5.19	9.63	53.77	63.99	24.04	80.74
1954-55—								
July	5.16	7.81	57.01	66.73	24.25	80.00
August	5.20	7.78	58.78	68.35	23.22	79.88
September	5.16	6.97	60.07	69.38	22.83	79.38
October	5.06	7.81	60.66	69.68	21.18	79.45
November	5.21	8.37	60.51	69.34	20.71	79.67
December (e)	5.29	8.86	59.63	68.30	19.70	80.18
January	6.28	11.88	57.67	66.40	19.45	80.15
February	5.29	12.41	56.99	66.18	19.14	80.30
March (f)	4.82	11.82	56.87	66.59	19.03	80.42
April	4.40	9.30	59.15	68.84	19.30	80.48
May	4.49	8.15	61.07	70.56	19.54	79.77
June	5.01	7.14	62.55	72.08	18.80	79.56
1955-56—								
July	5.41	6.87	64.80	73.69	18.65	79.08
August	5.30	7.04	64.89	73.62	18.34	79.09
September	5.20	7.07	65.45	73.89	18.44	79.26
October	5.02	7.17	65.10	73.47	18.16	79.33
November	5.03	7.49	63.53	72.05	17.90	79.79
December (g)	5.40	8.81	61.63	69.98	17.55	80.38
January	5.74	12.71	58.89	67.40	17.41	80.38
February	5.02	13.40	58.09	66.89	18.58	80.50
March	4.92	11.79	58.17	67.09	19.78	80.56
April	4.58	9.58	59.53	68.54	19.47	80.12
May	5.23	8.47	62.48	71.79	18.68	79.19

(a) See footnote (a) on previous page. (b) Deposits exclude inscribed deposit stock. (c) Excludes Treasury Bills. (d) Figures for 1945-46 and onwards are not strictly comparable with those for previous periods owing to exclusion from advances of bills receivable and minor miscellaneous assets. (e) Banks were exempted from furnishing a return on fifth Wednesday. (f) The Ballarat Banking Co. Ltd. (in vol. liq.) included from March, 1955. (g) Banks were exempted from furnishing a return for fourth Wednesday.

For meaning of symbols .., —, see page 1.

COMMONWEALTH TRADING BANK OF AUSTRALIA(a),
and
COMMONWEALTH BANK OF AUSTRALIA
(RURAL CREDITS, MORTGAGE BANK AND INDUSTRIAL FINANCE DEPARTMENTS).
(£ million.)

Period.	Commonwealth Trading Bank.(a)(b)								Commonwealth Bank—Advances.(b)			
	Deposits.			Ad- vances.	Special Account with Common- wealth Bank. (c)	Coin Bullion, Notes and Cash with Common- wealth Bank.	Treasury Bills.	Other Australian Govern- ment and Municipal Securities.	Rural Credits Depart- ment.	Mortgage Bank Depart- ment.	Industrial Finance Department.	
	Bearing Interest.	Not Bearing Interest.	Total.								Hire Purchase.	Other
Average of Weekly Figures—												
1948-49 ..	13.2	51.1	64.3	31.8	..	6.1	..	34.1	1.8	3.2	7.6	4.8
1949-50 ..	14.8	62.5	77.3	45.3	..	6.2	2.0	35.4	13.8	3.5	12.8	6.3
1950-51 ..	19.4	89.2	108.6	62.5	..	7.2	24.0	26.9	13.7	3.8	14.7	7.6
1951-52 ..	20.1	90.6	110.7	76.4	..	6.6	26.4	13.3	19.7	4.1	15.5	8.7
1952-53 ..	22.8	96.7	119.5	(d)59.5	21.7	8.8	(c)17.2	(d)25.8	44.9	4.3	14.8	8.1
1953-54 ..	35.3	120.9	156.2	69.2	34.8	11.0	23.4	29.9	43.2	4.5	16.6	4.7
1954-55 ..	43.6	130.9	174.5	89.1	36.1	10.5	12.3	38.2	62.3	4.8	17.0	6.7
1953-54—												
May ..	38.3	126.1	164.4	73.3	39.1	10.7	15.5	35.1	63.6	4.7	16.7	5.0
June ..	37.8	127.9	165.7	76.0	38.7	14.1	12.6	35.1	57.4	4.6	16.8	5.3
1954-55—												
July ..	39.9	125.0	164.9	80.9	38.6	9.3	13.3	35.1	56.2	4.7	16.7	6.0
August ..	41.0	123.7	164.7	84.0	38.5	9.8	8.3	35.1	61.1	4.7	16.8	6.1
September ..	41.9	126.9	168.8	84.1	38.5	10.5	9.6	37.0	54.1	4.7	17.1	6.3
October ..	44.6	128.1	172.7	84.2	37.3	10.4	11.9	39.9	48.3	4.7	17.2	6.3
November ..	44.1	132.1	176.2	86.5	36.7	9.8	14.3	40.1	45.6	4.8	17.3	6.4
December ..	43.8	133.6	177.4	87.4	35.0	10.6	16.3	38.2	41.4	4.8	17.5	6.3
January ..	42.9	127.3	170.2	89.7	35.0	11.6	10.7	36.3	53.6	4.8	17.4	6.2
February ..	42.5	129.5	172.0	90.0	35.0	10.3	12.7	37.7	76.9	4.9	17.1	6.3
March ..	44.2	136.2	180.4	90.9	35.0	11.4	15.3	39.3	85.9	5.0	16.9	6.5
April ..	45.5	136.4	181.9	94.0	35.0	9.2	14.6	39.6	81.7	5.0	16.7	7.4
May ..	45.5	135.9	181.4	97.8	35.0	10.0	12.0	39.6	74.4	5.0	16.7	8.2
June ..	46.2	134.9	181.1	98.5	33.8	12.0	8.9	39.7	64.2	4.9	16.8	8.3
1955-56—												
July ..	48.1	131.3	179.4	103.1	33.2	10.2	5.0	40.0	57.1	5.1	16.8	8.4
August ..	48.6	131.2	179.8	105.4	32.7	9.5	5.7	39.2	50.2	5.1	16.9	8.7
September ..	48.9	131.9	180.8	106.0	32.7	10.4	4.1	40.0	50.4	5.1	16.9	8.8
October ..	48.6	136.5	185.1	105.0	32.7	10.8	8.5	40.0	52.0	5.1	17.0	8.9
November ..	48.4	139.6	188.0	105.0	32.7	10.1	10.5	40.0	46.7	5.1	17.2	9.1
December ..	47.0	140.4	187.4	104.8	32.7	10.9	8.0	40.0	50.4	5.1	17.3	9.4
January ..	47.5	132.5	180.0	105.9	32.7	10.6	2.8	40.1	66.2	5.1	17.0	9.1
February ..	46.7	132.9	179.6	104.8	33.6	9.8	4.2	40.1	98.8	5.0	16.5	9.1
March ..	45.5	135.9	181.4	102.7	35.7	10.1	6.0	36.8	113.5	5.1	16.0	9.1
April ..	40.9	141.9	182.8	101.3	34.8	10.7	7.6	35.7	109.5	5.1	16.8	9.2
May ..	42.0	138.2	180.2	101.0	32.9	9.8	8.2	35.7	98.1	5.1	15.8	9.3

(a) General Banking Division of Commonwealth Bank prior to 3rd December, 1953. (b) Averages of liabilities and assets on Wednesdays.
(c) At the beginning of July, 1952, the General Banking Division opened, in the books of the Central Bank, a special deposit account with a balance approximating the amount that would be required if it were subject to Special Account provisions of the Banking Act 1945. This represents a change in the form of liquid assets which were previously held, predominantly in Treasury Bills. (d) Between March and July, 1952, certain loans to building societies and *crédit foncier* loans for housing were transferred from the General Banking Division to the Commonwealth Savings Bank in exchange for Government Securities. The reduction in these loans (held by the General Banking Division) over this period was approximately £24,000,000.
(e) Returns for fifth Wednesday not available. (f) Returns for fourth Wednesday not available.

For meaning of symbols .., —, see page 1.

COMMONWEALTH BANK OF AUSTRALIA : CENTRAL BANKING BUSINESS.

(Including Note Issue Department.)

LIABILITIES AND ASSETS.(a)

(£A million.)

Period.	Notes on Issue.			Special Accounts of Trading Banks.	Other Deposits of Trading Banks.	Other Liabilities (excluding Capital and Reserves).	Gold and Balances held Abroad.	Government and other Securities (including Treasury Bills).
	Held by Banks.	Held by Public.	Total.					
Average of Weekly Figures—								
1948-49.. ..	24.9	178.7	203.6	323.9	29.8	174.6	336.2	356.3
1949-50.. ..	27.9	194.3	222.2	379.6	30.7	200.3	434.0	349.0
1950-51.. ..	32.7	219.1	251.8	503.2	34.7	238.2	596.3	366.6
1951-52.. ..	38.1	255.5	293.6	468.8	31.1	270.9	470.6	503.1
1952-53.. ..	36.9	281.3	318.2	212.9	45.4	287.4	363.6	434.8
1953-54.. ..	38.5	299.7	338.2	(b)306.8	41.7	283.4	512.6	408.0
1954-55.. ..	41.1	316.6	357.7	306.3	36.8	243.5	415.9	459.8
1953-54—								
May	39.7	304.3	344.0	358.9	47.0	263.1	540.0	404.3
June	38.7	305.8	344.5	353.5	43.5	266.9	520.9	422.6
1954-55—								
July	38.8	307.2	346.0	348.1	36.7	250.1	478.5	445.0
August	38.8	309.0	347.8	331.4	37.3	246.5	454.0	445.8
September ..	38.4	311.1	349.5	327.3	37.5	255.2	439.4	473.4
October	39.4	312.4	351.8	310.7	36.2	250.1	426.4	470.9
November ..	39.4	313.7	353.1	306.9	38.4	249.5	424.9	472.2
December (c) ..	44.5	322.9	367.4	295.7	36.3	235.7	417.7	471.1
January	46.6	317.0	363.6	295.7	49.2	241.4	414.9	475.0
February	40.9	314.3	355.2	295.7	40.8	246.7	406.8	446.2
March	40.4	317.6	358.0	295.7	36.8	244.3	403.5	438.4
April	42.5	324.3	366.8	295.7	26.2	231.9	382.2	446.7
May	41.3	320.8	362.1	295.6	28.7	234.7	375.8	462.7
June	40.6	322.5	363.1	280.7	37.1	234.5	374.2	470.1
1955-56—								
July	40.1	323.8	363.9	273.1	40.5	217.1	360.2	471.1
August	40.1	325.9	366.0	265.4	36.7	216.0	343.8	486.8
September ..	40.2	328.1	368.3	265.4	36.1	205.9	321.6	502.0
October	40.7	329.6	370.3	265.4	34.4	210.5	303.3	525.4
November ..	41.4	331.4	372.8	265.4	34.8	208.7	301.0	535.3
December (d) ..	48.3	343.5	391.8	265.4	36.5	205.2	297.6	552.8
January	47.4	333.5	380.9	265.4	40.6	207.3	298.1	534.0
February	42.8	330.6	373.4	281.9	33.5	211.4	293.2	511.0
March	41.5	335.9	377.4	300.4	36.0	211.0	274.0	540.6
April	45.9	336.2	382.1	292.9	27.8	200.8	258.4	530.5
May	45.1	329.7	374.8	272.4	34.4	204.3	263.4	509.6

(a) Averages of liabilities and assets on Wednesdays in period. (b) From 3rd December, 1953, includes Special Account of Commonwealth Trading Bank. Previously the Special Deposit Account of the General Banking Division of the Commonwealth Bank was included in "Other Liabilities". (c) Return for fifth Wednesday not available. (d) Return for fourth Wednesday not available.

For meaning of symbol —, see page 1.

ALL CHEQUE-PAYING BANKS.(a)

LIABILITIES AND ASSETS WITHIN AUSTRALIA.(b)

(£ million.)

Period.	Deposits.			Advances.	Coin, Bullion, Notes and Cash with Common- wealth Bank.	Treasury Bills.	Other Australian Government and Municipal Securities.
	Bearing Interest.	Not Bearing Interest.	Total				
Average of Weekly Figures—							
1948-49	231.8	634.6	866.4	440.2	58.3	24.0	109.3
1949-50	249.3	771.2	1,020.5	495.4	62.2	29.5	132.3
1950-51	279.6	1,017.6	1,297.2	598.4	71.4	64.0	129.5
1951-52	271.7	1,091.5	1,363.2	759.7	72.3	61.7	96.6
1952-53	256.8	1,076.3	1,333.1	(c)762.3	(d)88.2	(d)144.2	(c)126.2
1953-54	290.4	1,196.0	1,486.4	793.7	87.3	130.1	174.2
1954-55	322.6	1,220.0	1,542.6	938.1	82.0	69.5	174.1
 1953-54—							
May	301.8	1,245.3	1,547.1	835.4	90.7	93.7	185.3
June	305.2	1,225.3	1,530.5	845.2	87.1	80.1	182.6
 1954-55—							
July	310.1	1,184.6	1,494.7	874.8	79.6	54.9	172.8
August	309.5	1,169.5	1,479.0	892.0	79.7	47.6	169.8
September ..	317.7	1,168.0	1,485.7	911.1	80.6	37.3	168.7
October	324.6	1,190.3	1,514.9	935.8	80.1	51.9	170.3
November	324.4	1,207.4	1,531.8	944.5	82.5	60.0	169.4
December (e) ..	321.1	1,229.9	1,551.0	946.3	84.8	67.3	166.7
January	324.2	1,239.7	1,563.9	931.8	100.9	90.4	166.7
February	326.1	1,262.6	1,588.7	935.6	86.9	116.4	176.2
March	327.6	1,276.0	1,603.6	940.0	81.0	118.5	185.3
April	324.0	1,260.9	1,584.9	963.9	72.0	86.7	183.5
May	330.2	1,236.5	1,566.7	983.6	74.1	65.5	179.2
 June	329.8	1,214.9	1,544.7	990.8	81.8	40.7	177.8
 1955-56—							
July	332.4	1,182.3	1,514.7	1,007.7	83.8	27.2	167.5
August	329.2	1,167.9	1,497.1	999.8	80.3	30.9	163.3
September	326.5	1,164.7	1,491.2	1,004.4	79.3	30.6	160.1
October	329.1	1,185.9	1,515.0	1,012.3	79.0	39.4	160.8
November	326.6	1,210.4	1,537.0	1,004.5	78.8	45.6	164.3
December (f) ..	322.6	1,240.8	1,563.4	995.2	86.5	56.4	165.0
January	325.1	1,243.8	1,568.9	966.3	91.5	98.9	168.3
February	322.9	1,248.9	1,571.8	954.4	81.2	120.8	172.1
March	321.0	1,254.7	1,575.7	954.6	79.9	104.4	170.7
April	319.7	1,244.2	1,563.9	964.7	75.0	76.1	169.6
May	324.1	1,192.0	1,516.1	976.2	80.6	54.5	169.6

(a) Compiled from returns lodged under the Banking Act 1945-1953. Includes General Banking Division of the Commonwealth Bank of Australia (Commonwealth Trading Bank from 3rd December, 1953), the General Bank Department of The Rural Bank of New South Wales, the General Banking Department of the State Bank of South Australia, and from July, 1946, the Rural Department of The Rural and Industries Bank of Western Australia. (b) See note (b), page 48. (c) See note (d), page 48. (d) See note (c), page 48. (e) Banks were exempted from furnishing return for fifth Wednesday. (f) Banks were exempted from furnishing a return for fourth Wednesday.

For meaning of symbol —, see page 1.

ALL CHEQUE-PAYING BANKS.

DEBITS TO CUSTOMERS' ACCOUNTS.(a)

(Excluding Debits to Australian Government Accounts at City Branches.)

(£ million.)

Period.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australian Capital Territory.	Total.
Average of Weekly Figures—								
1948-49 ..	83.1	74.3	24.3	15.5	10.7	4.7	0.2	212.8
1949-50 ..	104.9	97.8	29.5	19.3	13.7	5.6	0.3	271.1
1950-51 ..	145.1	134.9	39.0	26.8	19.3	7.4	0.4	372.9
1951-52 ..	156.6	142.3	41.5	30.8	21.8	8.9	0.5	402.4
1952-53 ..	151.9	132.0	43.8	30.1	22.1	8.8	0.6	389.3
1953-54 ..	171.7	154.9	51.0	32.8	25.4	9.9	0.8	446.5
1954-55 ..	187.5	176.2	53.9	36.3	26.2	10.7	0.8	491.6
1953-54—								
May ..	183.0	177.3	54.4	36.4	26.9	11.8	0.8	490.6
June ..	194.9	171.7	59.3	36.2	26.1	11.1	0.7	500.0
1954-55—								
July ..	181.8	161.0	56.0	34.9	26.2	10.7	0.7	471.3
August ..	170.6	156.5	49.5	32.1	24.3	9.8	0.6	443.4
September ..	179.7	168.5	54.1	34.5	25.4	9.8	0.7	472.7
October ..	190.3	178.0	56.3	35.5	26.8	10.0	0.7	497.6
November ..	185.8	170.4	54.8	36.2	25.6	9.9	0.7	483.4
December ..	194.5	184.4	55.6	37.5	27.1	11.0	0.9	511.0
January ..	173.8	165.9	52.0	34.3	27.6	9.2	0.9	463.7
February ..	188.3	188.8	53.3	37.1	26.3	10.1	0.8	504.7
March (b) ..	186.0	187.1	50.3	38.5	27.1	12.0	0.9	501.9
April ..	185.5	174.6	51.4	36.1	25.9	10.7	0.9	485.1
May ..	203.3	191.7	56.5	39.3	28.2	12.1	1.0	532.1
June ..	206.0	182.3	56.6	38.5	25.0	12.6	0.9	521.9
1955-56—								
July ..	201.7	183.8	59.4	37.8	26.1	11.0	0.9	520.7
August ..	186.9	167.3	53.2	36.0	23.9	11.1	0.9	479.3
September ..	193.7	169.3	56.7	36.3	25.5	10.8	1.0	493.3
October ..	202.9	183.8	57.0	37.6	25.9	11.0	1.0	519.2
November ..	216.1	196.1	57.7	41.6	27.7	11.2	1.0	551.4
December ..	214.1	205.2	59.6	42.6	28.8	11.8	1.0	563.1
January ..	183.9	172.2	52.9	39.3	30.0	10.4	1.1	489.8
February ..	187.1	184.0	50.9	39.8	27.8	10.9	1.0	501.5
March ..	199.7	191.1	54.5	41.4	26.8	12.2	1.2	526.9
April ..	201.2	191.8	52.0	38.4	27.0	12.6	1.0	524.0
May ..	218.0	199.2	58.3	43.1	28.2	13.5	1.1	561.4

(a) Compiled from returns lodged under the Banking Act 1945-1953. Averages of four or five weeks ended on last Wednesday. Includes in addition to the banks included in series on page 50, the Rural Credits, Mortgage Bank and Industrial Finance Departments of the Commonwealth Bank. (b) Debits to Customers' Accounts relating to the transfer of accounts from The Ballarat Banking Co. Ltd. (in vol. liq.) to The National Bank of Australasia Ltd. have been excluded from March, 1955.

For meaning of symbol —, see page 1.

SAVINGS BANK DEPOSITS AND SAVINGS CERTIFICATES.

(£ million.)

At end of—	Amounts on Deposit in Savings Banks.									War Savings and Savings Certificates— Net Amount Outstanding.
	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queens- land.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Northern Territory.	Australian Capital Territory.	Australia.	
1936-37 ..	82.0	75.7	27.3	26.5	11.8	7.2	0.1	0.3	230.9	..
1937-38 ..	86.0	78.9	28.2	27.2	12.0	7.7	0.1	0.3	240.4	..
1938-39 ..	87.5	80.5	29.0	27.4	12.4	8.4	0.1	0.3	245.6	..
1948-49 ..	244.5	239.3	87.4	81.2	37.5	22.4	0.7	1.2	714.2	62.2
1949-50 ..	258.9	257.1	92.2	87.7	39.6	24.3	0.9	1.4	762.1	55.0
1950-51 ..	284.5	281.8	98.8	97.8	44.7	27.1	1.0	1.7	837.4	48.1
1951-52 ..	304.5	300.8	102.7	103.7	47.2	30.1	1.1	1.8	891.9	41.8
1952-53 ..	319.1	320.0	109.4	113.9	49.8	32.1	1.1	2.1	947.5	35.6
1953-54 ..	339.8	339.8	117.4	122.9	52.6	34.0	1.3	2.3	1,010.1	30.3
1954-55 ..	358.6	364.8	124.8	131.7	53.6	35.8	1.5	2.6	1,073.4	26.7
1953-54—										
May ..	333.3	332.6	114.9	120.2	51.7	33.6	1.2	2.3	989.8	30.6
June ..	339.8	339.8	117.4	122.9	52.6	34.0	1.3	2.3	a 1,010.1	30.3
1954-55—										
July ..	341.9	341.8	119.0	124.3	52.7	34.3	1.3	2.4	1,017.7	30.0
August ..	343.1	344.7	120.4	125.0	53.1	34.8	1.3	2.4	1,024.8	29.7
September	344.3	346.6	121.4	125.5	53.1	34.9	1.3	2.5	1,029.6	29.3
October	346.7	348.4	122.2	126.4	53.3	34.8	1.3	2.5	1,035.6	28.9
November	347.2	350.0	122.9	126.5	53.3	34.7	1.4	2.5	1,038.5	28.7
December	347.8	350.9	123.4	126.5	52.9	34.7	1.4	2.5	1,040.1	28.3
January	350.2	353.2	123.4	127.5	53.1	34.8	1.3	2.5	1,046.0	28.0
February	350.7	354.0	122.6	128.2	52.7	35.0	1.4	2.5	1,047.1	27.7
March	350.9	354.5	122.2	128.5	52.5	35.1	1.4	2.5	1,047.6	27.5
April ..	352.5	356.7	122.5	129.0	52.7	35.4	1.4	2.5	1,052.7	27.2
May ..	351.4	357.3	122.1	128.9	52.5	35.4	1.4	2.5	1,051.5	26.9
June ..	358.6	364.8	124.8	131.7	53.6	35.8	1.5	2.6	a 1,073.4	26.6
1955-56—										
July ..	360.4	366.9	126.3	132.6	54.2	36.2	1.5	2.6	1,080.7	26.3
August	358.9	367.3	126.7	132.5	54.3	36.7	1.6	2.7	1,080.7	26.0
September	359.5	368.9	126.5	132.9	54.6	36.7	1.6	2.7	1,083.4	25.7
October	362.3	370.1	127.6	133.6	54.9	36.8	1.5	2.7	1,089.5	25.4
November	361.8	371.1	127.7	132.9	54.7	36.5	1.5	2.7	1,088.9	25.2
December	364.1	371.4	128.1	132.8	54.4	36.4	1.5	2.7	1,091.4	24.9
January	367.3	371.5	127.9	132.7	54.7	36.3	4.3		1,094.7	24.6
February	371.2	373.5	128.2	132.9	55.0	36.6	4.3		1,101.7	24.4
March	374.4	375.3	129.1	133.1	55.4	36.5	4.4		1,108.2	24.2
April ..	375.7	375.7	128.9	132.9	55.6	36.7	4.5		1,110.0	23.9
May ..	376.7	376.9	128.8	132.3	55.7	36.6	4.6		1,111.6	23.6

(a) Interest added 1953-54, £17.8m; 1954-55, £19.9m. The major part of this interest was added in June.

For meaning of symbol .., see page 1.

LIFE ASSURANCE BUSINESS.(a)

Period.	New Policies Issued.(b)				Premiums.(c)		Claims, &c., Paid.(d)		New Loans Granted. (e)
	Ordinary Department.		Industrial Department.		Ordinary Department.	Industrial Department.	Ordinary Department.	Industrial Department.	
	Number.	Sum Assured.	Number.	Sum Assured.					
		£'000.		£'000.	£'000.	£'000.	£'000.	£'000.	£'000.
Monthly Average—									
1937	12,296	4,120	36,148	1,684	1,045	474	747	223	n.a.
1938	11,470	3,867	32,757	1,530	1,075	617	781	246	n.a.
1939	11,293	3,886	32,125	1,545	1,144	541	835	303	n.a.
1948-49	20,201	10,618	25,254	2,458	2,539	967	1,112	497	1,476
1949-50	20,538	12,243	24,999	2,509	2,877	1,003	1,224	512	2,778
1950-51	21,642	15,206	22,713	2,423	3,210	1,043	1,310	491	3,893
1951-52	23,607	18,464	23,216	2,817	3,651	1,102	1,441	546	3,963
1952-53	23,643	18,828	22,853	2,946	4,186	1,147	1,576	619	3,011
1953-54	23,712	21,177	19,974	2,715	4,680	1,173	1,763	672	2,872
1954-55	23,505	24,432	18,415	2,734	5,175	1,218	1,983	738	4,319
Monthly Total—									
1953-54—									
April	21,324	20,967	18,942	2,664	4,433	1,122	1,579	643	3,233
May	25,064	21,380	22,500	3,121	5,183	1,178	1,840	744	3,013
June	25,806	23,759	21,076	2,844	6,072	1,200	1,991	726	3,418
1954-55—									
July	27,010	26,383	18,704	2,627	5,166	1,189	2,111	805	3,624
August	25,513	23,916	21,284	3,113	5,102	1,191	2,042	779	3,312
September ..	30,787	31,146	29,567	4,312	5,137	1,327	2,120	724	3,627
October	22,427	20,953	17,126	2,485	4,617	1,210	1,969	744	4,440
November ..	22,973	22,321	19,599	2,874	4,885	1,315	1,823	795	4,149
December ..	31,474	37,228	16,406	2,661	5,592	1,489	2,320	638	4,806
January	11,188	10,383	4,967	720	4,153	675	1,293	559	2,962
February ..	16,358	15,828	17,464	2,541	4,498	1,181	1,764	736	3,731
March	22,932	23,258	18,489	2,687	5,340	1,258	2,161	814	5,111
April	19,535	20,123	17,156	2,688	4,750	1,162	1,849	666	4,875
May	24,860	31,169	19,992	2,982	6,112	1,260	2,157	798	4,327
June	27,002	29,666	20,225	3,119	6,749	1,359	2,182	795	6,861
1955-56—									
July	29,780	31,298	17,383	2,649	5,812	1,181	2,424	842	4,083
August	28,314	30,682	21,003	3,316	5,702	1,182	2,322	864	5,217
September ..	35,366	36,605	22,065	3,476	6,072	1,272	2,415	814	5,191
October	20,584	22,642	19,056	2,887	5,192	1,262	2,020	821	4,447
November ..	25,697	26,896	18,249	2,846	5,352	1,284	2,177	784	6,011
December ..	27,944	45,467	17,075	2,864	6,340	1,558	2,584	706	5,473
January	13,527	14,085	3,568	507	4,786	641	1,619	595	3,518
February ..	20,759	20,434	16,586	2,495	4,990	1,229	2,250	769	4,376
March	24,048	24,706	19,946	3,059	5,440	1,296	2,196	840	5,044
April	22,109	22,613	18,158	2,736	5,886	1,225	2,072	737	3,935

(a) Excludes business of the Government Insurance Office of New South Wales and the Queensland State Government Insurance Office which operate only in New South Wales and Queensland respectively. Monthly averages for the years 1937 to 1947 are based on annual returns for the financial years of the companies. From 1947-48 the figures have been compiled from monthly returns.
 (b) Excludes annuity policies. (c) Includes consideration for annuities. (d) Includes claims paid on death or maturity, payments made on surrender of policies, annuities and bonuses paid in cash. (e) Excludes advances of premiums.

For meaning of symbols n.a., —, see page 1.

EXCHANGE RATES, GOLD PRICES AND SECURITY YIELDS.

Period.	Exchange Rates.(a)			Gold Prices.(a)		Commonwealth Government Securities taxed at Current Commonwealth Rates.		Private First Mortgages Registered in New South Wales
	Australia on London.(b)	London on New York. (b)	Australia on New York. (c)	Australia.	London.	Short Dated 2 years.(d)	Long Dated 12 years.(d)	
	£A. per £100 Stg.	\$ per £Stg.	\$ per £A.	£A. per fine oz.	£Stg. per fine oz.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent. (e)
1936-37 ..	125.25	4.939	3.929	8.761	7.041	(f) 3.57	(g) 3.94	(h) 5.3
1937-38 ..	125.25	4.980	3.961	8.690	7.001	(f) 3.30	(g) 3.71	(h) 5.3
1938-39 ..	125.25	4.738	3.759	9.137	7.340	(f) 3.67	(g) 3.84	(i) 5.5
1948-49 ..	125.25	4.030	3.204	10.763	8.613	2.07	3.12	4.4
1949-50 ..	125.25	3.074	2.445	14.443	11.557	1.95	3.13	4.4
1950-51 ..	125.25	2.800	2.228	15.492	12.400	1.99	3.21	4.4
1951-52 ..	125.25	2.796	2.224	15.492	12.400	2.05	3.95	4.4
1952-53 ..	125.25	2.804	2.231	15.492	12.400	3.03	4.54	4.7
1953-54 ..	125.25	2.813	2.238	15.514	12.411	3.10	4.44	4.9
1954-55 ..	125.25	2.797	2.226	15.625	12.536	3.49	4.50	5.2
1953-54—								(i) (j)
May ..	125.25	2.819	2.243	15.625	12.445	3.34	4.47	5.0
June ..	125.25	2.818	2.243	15.625	12.444	3.42	4.40	5.0
1954-55—								
July ..	125.25	2.818	2.242	15.625	12.449	3.54	4.47	5.0
August ..	125.25	2.813	2.239	15.625	12.458	3.47	4.49	5.0
September ..	125.25	2.801	2.229	15.625	12.522	3.56	4.48	5.0
October ..	125.25	2.798	2.226	15.625	12.541	3.43	4.49	5.0
November ..	125.25	2.795	2.224	15.625	12.541	3.39	4.50	5.1
December ..	125.25	2.788	2.218	15.625	12.566	3.48	4.52	5.2
January ..	125.25	2.786	2.217	15.625	12.580	3.35	4.49	5.3
February ..	125.25	2.784	2.218	15.625	12.589	3.29	4.49	5.3
March ..	125.25	2.792	2.220	15.625	12.557	3.49	4.53	5.3
April ..	125.25	2.797	2.226	15.625	12.533	3.55	4.53	5.4
May ..	125.25	2.796	2.225	15.625	12.534	3.61	4.49	5.4
June ..	125.25	2.790	2.220	15.625	12.560	3.74	4.53	5.5
1955-56—								
July ..	125.25	2.785	2.217	15.625	12.583	3.91	4.53	5.5
August ..	125.25	2.787	2.218	15.625	12.569	4.08	4.51	5.5
September ..	125.25	2.786	2.217	15.625	12.556	4.23	4.51	5.5
October ..	125.25	2.739	2.222	15.625	12.528	3.96	4.53	5.6
November ..	125.25	2.802	2.230	15.625	12.477	4.07	4.52	5.6
December ..	125.25	2.803	2.230	15.625	12.478	4.19	4.53	5.7
January ..	125.25	2.807	2.234	15.625	12.465	4.13	4.54	5.8
February ..	125.25	2.807	2.233	15.625	12.466	4.26	4.57	5.8
March ..	125.25	2.805	2.233	15.625	12.472	4.68	5.12	5.9
April ..	125.25	2.808	2.234	15.625	12.460	4.97	5.18	5.9
May ..	125.25	2.808	2.234	15.625	12.461	5.02	5.19	6.0

(a) Average of daily quotations. (b) Average of buying and selling rates for telegraphic transfers. (c) Selling rate. Direct quotation. (d) Rates for securities maturing in 2 and 12 years, estimated from rates on securities maturing in 0-5, and 10 or more years, respectively. Figures relate to last Wednesday in month. (e) Weighted average twelve months. (f) Under 5 years taxed at 1930 Commonwealth rates. (g) Ten years and over taxed at 1930 Commonwealth rates. (h) Urban securities only. (i) Rural and urban securities. (j) Average rate on mortgages registered in three months ending with month shown.

INTEREST RATES.

(Per Cent. per Annum.)

Date of Change in Rate.	Trading Banks—						Common-wealth Savings Bank Deposits (Maximum Rate).	Treasury Bills (Discount Rate).	Common-wealth Loans (Long Term).	
	Fixed Deposits—				Overdrafts (Maximum Rate).					
	3 months.	6 months.	12 months.	24 months.	Common-wealth Trading Bank.(a)	Private Trading Banks.				
1940—24th January ..	1.75	2.25	2.50	2.75	4.25	(b) {	2.00	1.75	3.875	
1st March ..	1.75	2.25	2.50	2.75	4.25		2.00	1.75	3.625	
28th May ..	1.50	2.00	2.25	2.50	4.25		2.00	1.50	3.250	
1941—22nd Sept. ..	1.50	1.75	2.00	2.25	4.25	{	2.00	1.50	3.250	
1942—14th March ..	1.25	1.50	1.75	2.00	4.25		5.00	2.00	1.50	3.250
1943—1st May ..	1.25	1.50	1.75	2.00	4.25		5.00	2.00	1.25	3.250
1944—17th January..	1.00	1.25	1.50	2.00	4.25	5.00	2.00	1.25	3.250	
11th August ..	0.50	0.75	1.25	1.75	4.25	4.75	2.00	1.25	3.250	
1945—1st March ..	0.50	0.75	1.25	1.75	4.25	4.75	2.00	1.00	3.250	
1st December	0.50	0.75	1.00	(c)1.50	4.25	4.75	2.00	1.00	3.250	
1946—20th November	0.50	0.75	1.00	(c)1.50	4.25	4.75	2.00	1.00	3.125	
1947—1st January ..	0.50	0.75	1.00	(c)1.50	4.25	4.50	2.00	1.00	3.125	
1949—1st May ..	0.50	0.75	1.00	(c)1.50	4.25	4.50	2.00	0.75	3.125	
1951—21st August ..	0.50	0.75	1.00	(c)1.50	4.25	4.50	2.00	0.75	3.750	
1952—29th July ..	1.00	1.25	1.50	(d)1.75	4.75	5.00	2.25	1.00	3.750	
25th November	1.00	1.25	1.50	(d)1.75	4.75	5.00	2.25	1.00	4.500	
1955—1st January ..	1.25	1.50	1.75	2.00	4.75	5.00	2.50	1.00	4.500	
1956—15th March ..	2.25	2.50	2.75	3.00	4.75	5.00	2.50	1.00	4.500	
1st April ..	2.25	2.50	2.75	3.00	(e) 6.00	(e) 6.00	2.75	1.00	4.500	
10th May ..	2.25	2.50	2.75	3.00	(e) 6.00	(e) 6.00	2.75	1.00	5.000	

(a) Prior to 3rd December, 1953, General Banking Division of the Commonwealth Bank. (b) Rates for Private Trading Banks not published, but predominant rates between 1936 and 1940 were 5.25 per cent. to 5.50 per cent. On 1st July, 1940, rates in excess of 5.25 per cent. were reduced by 0.25 per cent. and on 1st January, 1942, there was a further reduction of 0.125 per cent. (c) 1 per cent. on amounts in excess of £10,000. (d) 1.50 per cent. on amounts in excess of £10,000. (e) Average rate on all advances not to exceed 5½ per cent.

COMMONWEALTH AND STATES: SHORT-TERM DEBT REDEEMABLE IN AUSTRALIA.(a)

(£'000.)

Date.	Common-wealth.	States.	Total.	Date.	Common-wealth.	States.	Total.
30th June—				1954-55—			
1937 ..	..	46,408	46,408	31st Jan. ..	230,000	..	230,000
1938 ..	..	46,598	46,598	28th Feb. ..	225,000	..	225,000
1939 ..	..	50,228	50,228	31st March ..	220,000	..	220,000
				30th April ..	210,000	..	210,000
1949 ..	123,280	..	123,280	31st May ..	165,000	..	165,000
1950 ..	108,280	..	108,280	30th June ..	160,000	..	160,000
1951 ..	108,280	2,400	110,680				
1952 ..	153,280	..	153,280	1955-56—			
1953 ..	225,000	..	225,000	31st July ..	150,000	..	150,000
1954 ..	190,000	..	190,000	31st August	155,000	..	155,000
1955 ..	160,000	..	160,000	30th Sept. ..	180,000	2,400	182,400
1953-54—				31st Oct. ..	195,000	2,900	197,900
30th June ..	190,000	..	190,000	30th Nov. ..	210,000	5,900	215,900
1954-55—				31st Dec. ..	255,000	7,400	262,400
31st July ..	155,000	..	155,000	31st Jan. ..	255,000	7,400	262,400
31st August	140,000	..	140,000	29th Feb. ..	265,000	7,400	272,400
30th Sept. ..	185,000	..	185,000	31st Mar. ..	280,000	6,400	286,400
31st Oct. ..	200,000	..	200,000	30th April ..	220,000	5,900	225,900
30th Nov. ..	195,000	..	195,000	31st May ..	180,000	3,900	183,900
31st Dec. ..	215,000	..	215,000				

(a) Excludes overdrafts and Internal Treasury Bills.
For meaning of symbol .., see page 1.

COMMONWEALTH AND STATE FINANCE. (a)

(£ million.)

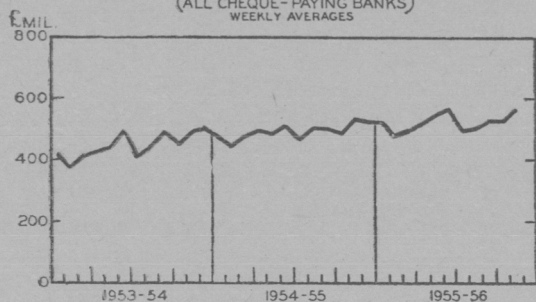
Period.	New South Wales.(b)	Victoria.	Queens-land.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Six States.	Common-wealth.	Grand Total.(a)
REVENUE.									
1936-37	49.2	27.2	16.5	11.7	10.2	3.5	118.3	82.8	191.1
1937-38	53.6	27.6	17.3	12.5	10.8	3.6	125.4	89.5	204.8
1938-39	51.1	27.0	19.3	12.3	11.0	3.6	124.3	95.1	209.6
1949-50	106.5	55.6	37.1	26.3	26.0	7.1	258.6	580.7	746.6
1950-51	128.3	63.5	44.7	31.1	29.0	7.8	304.4	841.8	1,032.0
1951-52	167.1	81.7	55.7	37.5	34.0	10.5	386.5	1,016.8	1,260.1
1952-53	180.9	97.0	63.2	44.2	38.7	12.1	436.1	1,040.1	1,310.7
1953-54	186.6	106.7	69.7	48.4	43.6	13.3	468.3	1,022.8	1,320.3
1954-55	193.0	116.8	73.8	48.7	46.1	14.5	492.9	1,067.4	1,384.8
1955-56 (Estimate) ..	205.6	123.0	77.3	55.7	49.3	16.9	527.8	1,123.8	pl,462.7
1953-54—									
July—March ..	127.8	67.3	47.6	32.9	29.9	8.6	314.1	638.6	846.1
—April ..	145.2	77.1	54.8	37.3	34.1	9.9	358.4	765.2	995.8
—May ..	163.7	88.4	61.4	41.8	38.2	11.2	404.7	883.6	1,139.2
1954-55—									
July—March ..	134.4	74.5	51.3	33.4	32.1	9.5	335.2	648.1	874.2
—April ..	152.2	84.9	58.7	37.6	36.0	10.8	380.2	783.9	1,032.8
—May ..	171.5	96.8	65.2	42.3	39.6	12.2	427.6	918.2	1,192.2
1955-56—									
July—March ..	133.7	76.6	51.5	37.7	34.6	12.1	346.2	688.4	916.5
—April ..	158.6	87.4	59.5	42.8	39.1	13.1	400.5	846.9	1,121.0
—May ..	180.9	99.8	66.6		43.7	15.2		989.0	
EXPENDITURE.									
1936-37	49.2	27.2	16.8	11.6	10.6	3.4	118.8	81.5	190.3
1937-38	53.5	27.6	17.6	12.4	10.8	3.6	125.5	86.0	201.4
1938-39	53.6	27.8	19.3	12.7	11.2	3.6	128.2	94.4	212.8
1949-50	107.7	55.8	37.1	26.6	26.0	7.3	260.5	580.7	748.4
1950-51	128.3	63.9	44.6	30.8	28.8	8.1	304.5	841.8	1,032.0
1951-52	167.0	84.1	55.7	37.5	34.5	10.9	389.7	1,016.8	1,263.3
1952-53	180.8	97.4	63.0	44.2	39.2	11.8	436.4	1,026.7	1,297.6
1953-54	186.5	106.0	69.3	46.6	43.7	13.3	465.4	966.5	1,261.1
1954-55	195.2	115.5	73.6	50.9	46.6	14.7	496.4	997.3	1,318.2
1955-56 (Estimate) ..	207.8	124.8	77.3	56.4	49.8	17.5	533.6	1,123.6	pl,468.4
1953-54—									
July—March ..	131.0	73.3	49.4	33.5	31.9	9.5	328.6	656.9	879.0
—April ..	147.6	81.5	54.9	37.5	35.6	10.6	368.7	753.8	994.7
—May ..	164.0	90.7	60.9	41.1	39.2	11.9	407.8	852.0	1,110.7
1954-55—									
July—March ..	140.1	79.4	51.9	36.3	33.4	10.2	351.3	684.2	926.2
—April ..	158.3	89.8	57.9	40.7	37.3	11.7	395.7	782.4	1,046.8
—May ..	177.7	99.5	64.6	45.0	40.5	13.2	440.5	869.0	1,115.9
1955-56—									
July—March ..	140.1	88.1	55.9	41.0	38.1	12.4	375.6	768.1	1,025.7
—April ..	169.4	98.2	62.1	45.8	42.3	14.3	432.1	863.1	1,168.7
—May ..	190.3	110.9	69.9		46.9	16.1		988.5	

(a) To avoid duplication in aggregating particulars for the Commonwealth and States, the grand totals exclude payments by the Commonwealth to the States for compensation in respect of uniform taxation, interest on States' debts, special grants and special financial assistance, also pay-roll tax payments by States to the Commonwealth. The totals of revenue and expenditure of the States have also been adjusted.

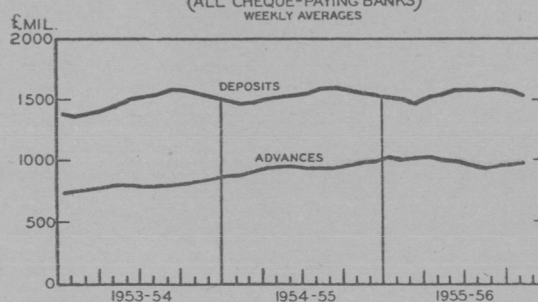
(b) Excludes Main Roads Department, Road Transport and Traffic Fund, and recoups of interest, &c., from undertakings outside the Budget. To obtain comparability between States, Commonwealth Hospital Benefits have been excluded from annual figures.

For meaning of symbol p. see page I.

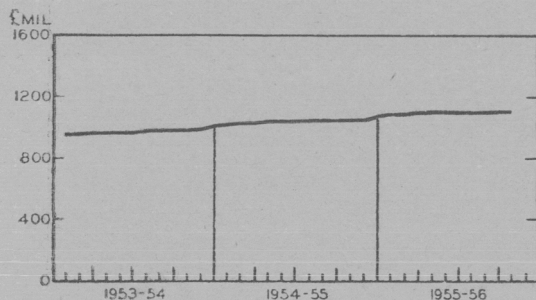
BANK DEBITS TO CUSTOMERS' ACCOUNTS
(ALL CHEQUE-PAYING BANKS)
WEEKLY AVERAGES



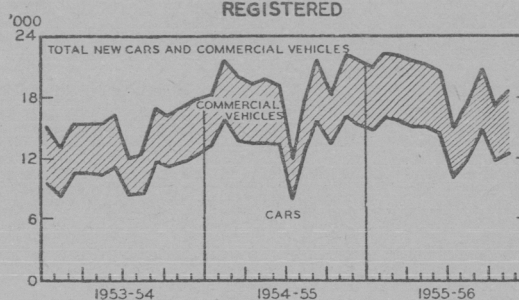
DEPOSITS AND ADVANCES
(ALL CHEQUE-PAYING BANKS)
WEEKLY AVERAGES



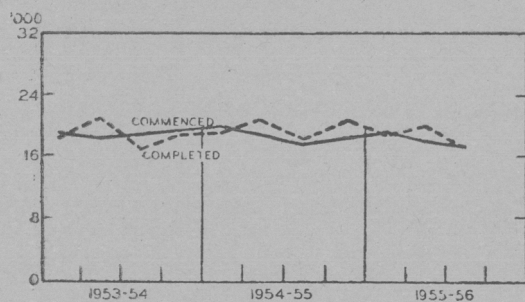
SAVINGS BANK DEPOSITS



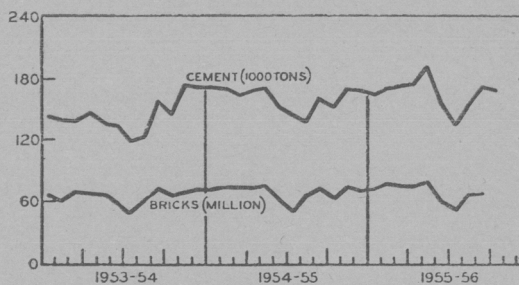
NEW MOTOR CARS AND COMMERCIAL VEHICLES REGISTERED



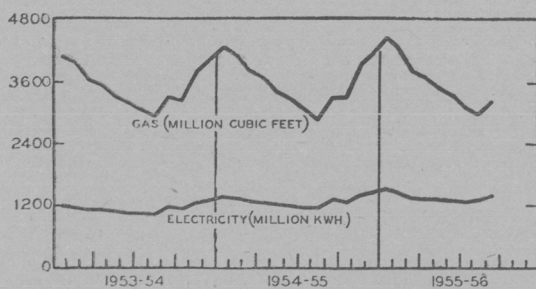
NEW HOUSES



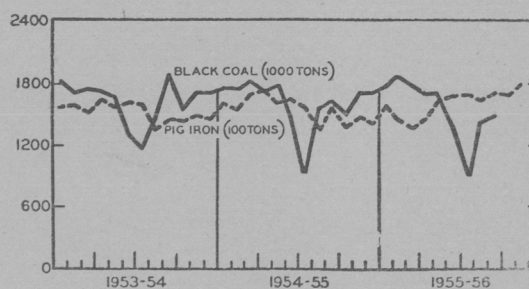
PRODUCTION OF BRICKS AND CEMENT



PRODUCTION OF GAS AND ELECTRICITY



PRODUCTION OF BLACK COAL AND PIG IRON



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„ 19. Registrations of New Motor Vehicles : May, 1956 (Preliminary).
„ 25. Monthly Bulletin : Employment Statistics No. 173 : April, 1956.
„ 27. Monthly Bulletin : The Dairying Industry Vol. 19. No. 4 : April, 1956.
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„ 2. *Quarterly Summary of Australian Statistics No. 223 : December 9th, 1955.
„ 2. Factory Statistics : 1954-55.
„ 3. Monthly Bulletin : Registrations of New Motor Vehicles No. 59 : May, 1956.
„ 3. Quarterly Bulletin of Building Statistics : March quarter, 1956.
„ 3. Wholesale Price (Basic Materials and Foodstuffs) Index : Quarter ended May, 1956.
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„ 9. Monthly Bulletin : Demographic Review No. 66 : June, 1956.
„ 12. Monthly Bulletin : Oversea Trade Statistics : May, 1956.
„ 17. Registrations of New Motor Vehicles : June, 1956 (Preliminary).
„ 18. Monthly Bulletin : Production Statistics No. 92 : July, 1956.

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